POINT OF ORDER.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN (*Quilon* cum *Kottarakara*): Sir, before going to the next business, I wish to draw the attention of the President to the fact that a member of this House was asked to leave the House because he did not take the oath. It seems that it is the precedent of this House that members sit in their respective places even before taking the oath. For example, at the last meeting, before the members took the oath they were allowed to sit in their seats. I beg to bring this matter to the notice of the President.

PRESIDENT: The matter was considered and the ruling was given. In this case the precedent was not followed by the President.

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET.—(*contd.*):

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil* cum *Nedumangad*): Sir, it is a matter for gratification to have a surplus budget. Perusing the Budget estimates for the next year, I regret to say that I have no praise to be offered to the Financial Secretary. Disgusted with the financial policy adopted by the Account Officer year after year, the members of the legislature urged the separation of the Finance Department from the Account Department. And the Government also feeling the necessity for separation, organised an independent Financial Secretariat. With the formation of that Secretariat we thought that there would be a total change in the financial policy of Government.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. Is it the honourable member's idea that because the Financial Secretariat and the Account Department have been separated, the whole policy of the Travancore Government should change? Is that the idea?

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI: No, Sir. We expected that there will be a visible change from the policy hitherto adopted by the Account Officer. We expected that the Financial Secretary would initiate a beneficial financial policy.

PRESIDENT: The Financial Secretary initiates no financial policy.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Rather the Government would initiate a beneficial financial policy.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. The separation of the Accounts and the Finance Department has no bearing upon the question of initiation of financial policy.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Sir, we also expect that the Financial Secretary would render the incidence of taxation—

PRESIDENT: Order, order. The Financial Secretary has nothing to do with the incidence of taxation.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Sir, we thought that the Government would, make the incidence of taxation, more equitable by providing substantial relief to the poor ryots. We also expected that the

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[Mr. S. Nilakanta Pillai.]

Government would explore new avenues of revenue without imposing additional taxation upon the people. But none of these expectations has been realised. I do not say that the Government are not aware of the difficulties in which the peasants are placed. Sir, the Budget Estimate for the next year is not calculated to benefit the poor ryots. Sir, Travancore is mainly an agricultural country. Government should have chalked out a policy which would benefit the poor ryots. Sir, if at all the Government have to take special care of any class of people, that is the agricultural class. I do not say that the Government are not aware of the difficulties of peasants in regard to cultivation on account of want of facilities. Sir, in the year 1931, the Government appointed a Committee to investigate into minor irrigation works and the Committee recommended that a sum not less than Rs. 5 lakhs per annum should be set apart until all the necessary works are completed. Sir Mahomed Habibulla, in his address to the Joint Session of the Assembly and the Council convened on January 28th, 1935, said, "Honourable members will be interested to hear that the Government are already contemplating the desirability of undertaking the repair and improvement of minor irrigation works in the State in general and setting apart additional funds particularly in areas where the distress is more keenly felt with a view to find employment to labourers and those thrown out of agricultural pursuits." Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar also stressed the importance of agriculture in his address the other day when we had the privilege of hearing that 'our hope for the future lies in the rehabilitation of agriculture.' But neither the recommendations of the Minor Irrigation Committee nor the utterances of the Heads of Administration have been realised.

Sir, the Budget Estimate for the next year does not contain adequate provisions calculated to benefit the people.

With regard to the university, the main idea of the Dewan appears to be to give a technical impetus to the State. For achieving this purpose, a few technological institutes may be opened. The purpose of such institutes is evidently to stimulate an industrial attitude in the people, and thereby to solve the pressing unemployment problem. I am of opinion that neither of these purposes will be achieved by the establishment of a university in Travancore. No doubt, technological institutes may impart education on industrial lines; but of what avail is this education if suitable openings are not available for absorbing men thrown out of such institutes? They will simply swell the number of unemployed. Moreover, the products of the Travancore University will not be in demand outside the State. They will have to find employment only inside the State. Hence it will be better to industrialise the country first and then proceed to the establishment of a university.

Then, with regard to the transport question. I support the scheme on principle. But in the practical working of the scheme, the Government should be scrupulously careful to see that no one is thrown out of employment and that the people get a reasonable reduction in the fare.

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Sir, another matter which I have to point out is with regard to appropriation of sums from the accumulated surplus. The Financial Secretary, in his speech, has proposed to draw a sum of Rs. 34·29 lakhs from the accumulated surplus in the next year. Sir, this is not a sound policy. The accumulation has been formed from the general revenues of the State and as such it should accrue to the general well-being of the people.

Another point that I have to refer to is this. Certain amounts are written off the accounts in the budget estimate presented to us. It is seen that a sum of Rs. 2½ lakhs has been written off out of the cash credit advance of Bh. Rs. 5 lakhs in the State Aided Bank. Similarly 1·58 lakhs of rupees is proposed to be written off the accounts in regard to Travancore Sugars. Sir, this does not redound to the credit of the Legislature. When the Government obtain the permission of the Legislature for expending even very small sums, I do not understand why is it that they write off very big sums without consulting the Legislature.

PRESIDENT : The honourable member may perhaps be aware that in every account there are two sides, what are called the credit side and the debit side.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI: I request Government therefore that when they deal with such great sums, as far as possible they should consult the trusted representatives of the people.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMEN : സർ, ബഡ്ജറ്റ് നിരൂപണാവസരത്തിൽ രാജ്യകാര്യങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റി വിമർശിക്കാൻ സംസിദ്ധമായ ഈ സ്വല്പ സമയത്തിനുള്ളിൽ ഏറ്റവും ആവശ്യമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുന്ന ചില സംഗതികൾമാത്രം ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരണമെന്നേ ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നുള്ളൂ. രാജ്യത്തിലെ ആഭ്യന്തരമായ ക്ഷേമവും ബാഹ്യമായ പ്രശസ്തിയും ജനങ്ങളുടെ ഐശ്വര്യം, വിദ്യാഭ്യാസപുരോഗതി, സാമുദായികസൗഹാർദ്ദം, ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ കൃത്യനിഷ്ഠ, ഇവയെയാണ് പ്രധാനമായി ആശ്രയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നത്. ഇവയെ മുൻനിർത്തി ചിന്തിക്കുമ്പോൾ രാജ്യത്തെ ഏതൽക്കാലസ്ഥിതി വളരെ പരിതാപകരമാണെന്നു പറയാതെ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ സാമ്പത്തികഭാവിയെപ്പറ്റി ചിന്തിക്കുന്നവർക്കു നിരാശയാണ് ജനിക്കുന്നത്. ഇവിടത്തെ ജനങ്ങളുടെ തൊഴിൽ പ്രധാനമായി കൃഷിയാണല്ലോ. ഒരു കർഷകരാജ്യത്തെ ജനസംഖ്യ വർദ്ധിച്ചുവരുമ്പോൾ കൃഷിസ്ഥലമോ വിളവോ വിളവുകളുടെ വിലയോ വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ, ആ രാജ്യത്തു ദാരിദ്ര്യം വർദ്ധിച്ചുവരുന്നുവെന്നുവേണമല്ലോ ധരിക്കുവാൻ. ഇവിടെ ഇരുപത്തഞ്ചുലക്ഷത്തിൽചില്വാനം ഏക്കർഭൂമി മാത്രമാണ് കർഷകരുടെ കൈവശമുള്ളതെന്നു ഭരണനിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ കാണുന്നു. ആളോഹരിനോക്കുമ്പോൾ അര ഏക്കർ

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[Mr. Tariatu Kunjitommen.]

ഭൂമിപോലും വരുന്നില്ല. ഈ രാജ്യത്തു കൃഷിയല്ലാതെ മറ്റു തൊഴിലു മില്ല. കൃഷിക്കു സ്ഥലവുമില്ല. ഈ സ്ഥിതിയിൽ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ഐശ്വ ര്യം എങ്ങിനെ നിലനിൽക്കും. പടിഞ്ഞാറോട്ടുപോയാൽ അറബിക്കടലും കിഴക്കോട്ടുപോയാൽ റിസർവുബൌണ്ടറിയും കർഷകനെ തടുക്കുന്നു. ഈ നിലയിൽ വർദ്ധിച്ചുവരുന്ന ജനങ്ങൾ എങ്ങനെ കാലക്ഷേപം ചെയ്യും. ഇവയെപ്പറ്റിയെല്ലാം ഗാഢമായി ചിന്തിച്ചു പരിഹാരം കണ്ടുപിടിക്കേ ണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഉടനെ പ്രവർത്തിക്കേ ണ്ട ഒരു സംഗതിയുണ്ടു്. രാജ്യത്തിൻെറ മൂന്നിലൊരുഭാഗവും റിസർവു വനമായി കിടക്കുകയാണു്. റോഡുകളുടേയും ആറുകളുടേയും വയലുക ളുടേയും ജനവാസസ്ഥലങ്ങളുടേയും സമീപത്തുള്ള സ്വാമ്പിഏറിയാകളും പുല്ലുമേടുകളും മറ്റുമായി രണ്ടുലക്ഷത്തോളംഏക്കർ റിസർവിൽനിന്നും വിടുത്തി ചെറിയചെറിയ അംശങ്ങളായി വിഭജിച്ചു് ജനങ്ങൾക്കു കൃഷി ക്കായി പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കണം. ഇതിലേക്കു ഫാറസ്റ്റ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു കാർ തടസംപറഞ്ഞേക്കുമെങ്കിലും ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ജനങ്ങളുടെ രക്ഷയെക്ക രുതി പ്രവർത്തിക്കണം. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളെ തുണ്ടുതുണ്ടായി ഭാഗി ച്ചു് ഒരു ക്രൊപ്പകാലത്തിനകം അതായതു് രണ്ടുകൊല്ലത്തിനകം കൃഷി ചെയ്തില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു തിരിച്ചെടുക്കുമെന്നുള്ള വ്യവസ്ഥയിന്മേൽ പതിച്ചുകൊടുത്താൽ ജനങ്ങൾ മരച്ചീനി തുടങ്ങിയ ചില്ലറകൃഷികൾ ചെ യ്തു് കാലക്ഷേപമാർഗ്ഗം നേടിക്കൊള്ളും. തൽക്കാലരക്ഷയ്ക്കു ഈ ഒരു വഴി മാത്രമേയുള്ളു. ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറയായാലും ജനങ്ങളുടെയായാലും സ കല ഐശ്വര്യവും കർഷകരെയാണു് ആശ്രയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇവി ടത്തെ കയറ്റുമതിസാമാനങ്ങൾ മുഴുവൻ കാർഷികോൽപ്പന്നങ്ങളാണു്. ഇറക്കുമതിസാമാനങ്ങൾ കാർഷികാദായംകൊണ്ടു് വാങ്ങേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈവിധത്തിൽ കച്ചവടവും കർഷകവൃത്തിയെയാശ്രയിച്ചാണിരിക്കു ന്നതു്. കാർഷികോല്പന്നങ്ങളിൽനിന്നുമുള്ള വ്യവസായമല്ലാതെ ഇവിടെ വേറേ വ്യവസായങ്ങളില്ല. ഭൂഗർഭത്തിൽനിന്നുമെടുത്തു സംസ്കരിക്കു ന്നതോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ വിദേശങ്ങളിൽനിന്നുംകൊണ്ടുവരുന്ന അസംസ്കൃത സാധനങ്ങളെ സംസ്കരിക്കുന്നതോആയ യാതൊരു വ്യവസായവും ഇവി ടെയില്ല. സകലതിനും അവലംബം കൃഷിയാണു്. കൃഷി വർദ്ധിപ്പി ക്കുന്നതിനായി റിസർവിൽനിന്നും മൻപ്രസ്താവിച്ചവിധം 2 ലക്ഷം ഏ ക്കർസ്ഥലം എടുത്തു പതിച്ചുകൊടുത്താൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു പതിനഞ്ചോ ഇരുപതോ ലക്ഷംരൂപാ തറവിലയിനത്തിൽ കിട്ടും. ആ സംഖ്യ ഉപ

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യോഗിച്ചു അനേകതരം കുടിൽവ്യവസായങ്ങൾ രാജ്യത്തു ഉടനീളം നടപ്പാക്കുകയുംചെയ്യാം. ഭൂനികുതിയിനത്തിലും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു ഇതിൽ നിന്നും പ്രതിവർഷം രണ്ടോ മൂന്നോ ലക്ഷംരൂപാ കിട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യും. നമുക്കു കാളനികളില്ല. കൃഷിയല്ലാതെ മറുതൊഴിലുമില്ല. അതിനാൽ രാജ്യത്തിൻെറ ഐശ്വര്യം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു മേലിൽ നാം പ്രധാനമായി ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു കുടിൽവ്യവസായങ്ങൾ നടപ്പാക്കുകയാണ്. അതിലേക്കു ജപ്പാനിൽനിന്നും വിദഗ്ധന്മാരെവരുത്തി ഇവിടത്തെ ജനങ്ങളെ പരിശീലിപ്പിക്കണം. എല്ലാ വിദ്യാലയങ്ങളിലും കുടിൽവ്യവസായപരിശീലനം നടപ്പാക്കിയാൽ താണക്ലാസ് മുതൽതന്നെ ബാലികാബാലന്മാർക്കു കുടിൽവ്യവസായം അഭ്യസിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കും. നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തു കൃഷിയും കുടിൽവ്യവസായവും വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു വേണ്ട സഹായങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യണമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറു മുമുലയുള്ള എല്ലാ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളിലേക്കും ആജ്ഞകൊടുക്കണം.

ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ കർഷകൻെറ സ്ഥിതി പലവിധത്തിലും വളരെ പരിതാപകരമാണ്. നട്ടെല്ലു നിവർക്കാൻവയ്യാത്തവണ്ണമുള്ള നികുതിഭാരംവഹിച്ചു കഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്ന കൃഷിക്കാരനെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ പീഡനം ചെയ്തു അവരുടെ അഭിമാനത്തേയും ധനത്തേയും നശിപ്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു കഷ്ടാൽകഷ്ടതരമാണ്. ഉൾനാടുകളിലാണു ഇതു് അധികംനടക്കുന്നതു്. ഇങ്ങിനെ കഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്ന കൃഷിക്കാരിൽനിന്നും ഗവണ്മെൻറു കയറുമതിത്തീരുവയായി ഇരുപതുലക്ഷത്തോളം രൂപാ ഇടാക്കുന്നു. ഭൂമിക്കു കരംകൊടുക്കുന്നതിനുംപുറമേ പരോക്ഷമായി അതിലെ വിളവുങ്ങൾക്കും കരം ഈടാക്കുന്ന ഈ ഏർപ്പാടു് കൊച്ചിയിലോ ഹൈദ്രബാദിലൊ, മൈസൂരിലോ, മറുനാട്ടുരാജ്യങ്ങളിലോ, ബ്രിട്ടീഷിൻഡ്യൻപ്രാവിൻസുകളിലോ ഇല്ല. ഇൻഡയറക്ടായും ഡയറക്ടായും കർഷകരിൽ നികുതി ചുമത്തുന്ന ഈ നയം ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഈക്ഷാമകാലത്തു വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുവാൻ പാടില്ല. വിളവുകൾക്കുവിലകൂടി രാജ്യത്തു ഐശ്വര്യം ഉണ്ടാകുമ്പോൾ ഈ കരങ്ങളെല്ലാം വീണ്ടും ചുമത്തിക്കൊള്ളാം. ഞങ്ങൾക്കുകൊടുക്കാൻ ശേഷിയുണ്ടായിരുന്നകാലത്തു ഞങ്ങൾ ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി സങ്കടംപറഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ല.

ജനങ്ങളുടെ പ്രാഥമികവിദ്യാഭ്യാസവിഷയത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ക്ഷുതൽ ശ്രദ്ധപതിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതാണ് സാമാന്യജനങ്ങളുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസകാര്യത്തിലാണു ക്ഷുതൽ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കേണ്ടതു്. ഉൾനാട്ടിലെ കൃഷിക്കാർക്കു പ്രാഥമികവിദ്യാഭ്യാസംമാത്രമെ തങ്ങളുടെ കുട്ടികൾക്കു നൽകുവാൻ കഴി

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[Mr. Tariatu Kunjitommen.]

ഴിവൊള്ള ധനസ്ഥിതി ഉയർന്നവിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന് അവരെ അനുവദിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഇനിയുംവളരെ പ്രാഥമികവിദ്യാലയങ്ങൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. വിദ്യാലയസ്ഥാപനവിഷയത്തിൽ പ്രയിലോമനയമാണ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു അധികൃതന്മാർ അനുവർത്തിച്ചുകാണുന്നത്. നമ്മുടെ പ്രാഥമിക വിദ്യാലയങ്ങൾ ൧൯൦൦-ൽ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നതു് ൧൯൨൯-ൽ നാലിരട്ടി ആക്കി. ഓരോവിദ്യാലയങ്ങൾ കൂടുകയാണുണ്ടായതു്. രാജ്യത്തു അക്ഷരജ്ഞാനം സിദ്ധിച്ചവരുടെ സംഖ്യ ആയിരത്തിനു ഇരുനൂറിത്തൊണ്ണൂറെട്ടു മാത്രമേയുള്ളു എന്നു സെൻസസ്സുറിപ്പോർട്ടിൽനിന്നും കാണാം. മുപ്പതുശതമാനംപോലുമില്ല. സ്കൂളുകൾ വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ രണ്ടോ മൂന്നോലക്ഷം രൂപാവീതം ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ഏതാനുംവർഷത്തേക്കു പ്രത്യേകംചേർക്കണം. ജനങ്ങളെക്കൊണ്ടോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറുതന്നെയോ നാട്ടിൻപുറങ്ങളിൽ ആയിരക്കണക്കിനു പ്രാഥമികവിദ്യാലയങ്ങൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കണം. സാമാന്യജനങ്ങളുടെ ആവശ്യങ്ങളെ വിസ്മരിച്ചു് അവരിൽനിന്നും ഈടാക്കുന്നപണം അവർക്കു ഉപയോഗമില്ലാത്ത മറുപടിയാതികർക്കായി ചിലവുചെയ്യുന്ന നയം ഒരിക്കലും ആശാസ്യമല്ല. ഇവിടെ നിർബന്ധവിദ്യാഭ്യാസം വേണമെന്നു പറയാറുണ്ടു്. ഒരുമൈലിനകത്തു് ഒരു വിദ്യാലയമെങ്കിലും ഇല്ലെങ്കിൽ നിർബന്ധിച്ചാലും ജനങ്ങൾ അവരുടെ ചെറുബാലികാബാലന്മാരെ വിദ്യാലയങ്ങളിൽ എങ്ങനെ അയച്ചുപഠിപ്പിക്കും? വിദ്യാലയസ്ഥാപനത്തിൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു അനുവർത്തിച്ചുവരുന്ന നയം കണ്ടാൽ നിർബന്ധവിദ്യാഭ്യാസം നടത്തുന്നതിനു അധികൃതർ പ്രതിക്രുലികളാണെന്നു തോന്നിപ്പോകും.

ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ അഴിമതിക്കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണമെന്നാണു ഇനി എനിക്കു് പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്. സചിവോത്തമനായ മന്ത്രിവര്യൻ പ്രാബല്യവും സ്വാധീനബലവുമുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരേയും അഴിമതിക്കാരാണെന്നു ബോധപ്പെട്ടാൽ അമർച്ച വരുത്താതിരിക്കയില്ലെന്നു ജനസാമാന്യം ഇതിനകം ധരിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞു. ശ്രീ ചാഴംകോടാകുന്ന അരാമത്തിലെ ചില വലിയവൃക്ഷങ്ങളുടെ ചുവട്ടിൽ തണൽപിടിച്ചു നിന്നുകൊണ്ടു തോട്ടത്തിലെ വിളവുകളെ കവരുകയും, ജനങ്ങളെ ചീന്തിജീവരക്തംകുടിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്ന ഭയങ്കര സത്വങ്ങളെ ഉടനെ ബഹിഷ്കരിക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. അഴിമതിക്കാരായ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർരാജ്യദ്രോഹികളാണു്. രാജ്യത്തെ ആഭ്യന്തരശത്രുക്കളാണവർ. ഞാൻ അഴിമതിക്കാരാ

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യ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെപ്പറ്റി മാത്രമേപറയുന്നുള്ളൂ. അവരുടെ പേരുകൾ ഇവിടെ പറയണമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല. ബാഹ്യശത്രുക്കൾ നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തെ ആക്രമിച്ചാൽ ദേശാഭിമാനവും പൌരുഷവുമുള്ള ഓരോ പൌരനും സകലശക്തിയുമുപയോഗിച്ചും രക്തം ചിന്തിയും രാജ്യത്തെ രക്ഷിക്കുവാൻ ഉദ്യമിക്കും. അതുപോലെതന്നെ ആഭ്യന്തരശത്രുക്കളിൽ നിന്നും രാജ്യത്തെ രക്ഷിക്കേണ്ടതും ഇവിടെയുള്ള ഓരോ പൌരന്റേയും കടമയാണ്. ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ അഴിമതികളെ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുന്നതിനു പ്രത്യേകം സി. ഐ. ഡി യെ വച്ചാലും തരക്കേടില്ല. പക്ഷേ അത് ദിവാൻജിയുടെ നേരെ കീഴെതന്നെ ആയിരിക്കണം. രാജ്യമൊട്ടുക്കു സഞ്ചരിച്ചു അഴിമതിക്കാരെ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കണം. സർവീസിൽനിന്നും നിഷ്കാസനം ചെയ്യണം. അഴിമതിക്കാരെ അവധിവെട്ടിച്ചതുകൊണ്ടോ സ്പെൻറ് ചെയ്തതുകൊണ്ടോ ഗുണമുണ്ടാകുകയില്ല. ക്ഷുദ്രത്തോടെ പിരിച്ചുവിടുകതന്നെ വേണം. വമ്പിച്ച നിലയിലാണ് ഇവിടത്തെ അഴിമതികാര്യം നടക്കുന്നത്. സകല വകുപ്പുകളിലുമുണ്ട്.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*) : അഴിമതിക്കാരായ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ എത്രയെണ്ണം വരും?

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN: അതിനാണ് സി. ഐ. ഡി. യെ വച്ചു അന്വേഷിച്ചു തിട്ടം വരുത്തണമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞതു. വളരെയുണ്ടെന്നു ഊഹിക്കുന്നതിനു സംശയമില്ല.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : സി. ഐ.-ഡി. ക്കാരിൽതന്നെ അഴിമതിക്കാർ ഉണ്ടാകയില്ലെ?

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN: അവരെ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കാൻ വേറെ ചില സി. ഐ. ഡി കളെയും വയ്ക്കണം. യോഗ്യന്മാരെ പ്രത്യേകം എടുക്കണം. (ചിരി)

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: സി. ഐ ഡി യിൽ... ...

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN: ചോദ്യങ്ങളെല്ലാം ഒടുവിൽ ചോദിക്കണം. എനിക്കുള്ള സമയം വളരെ പരിമിതമാണ്.

PRESIDENT : It is not necessary for any honourable member to yield his place. If he does not want any interruption, he may continue to stand and will be allowed to go on standing.

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN: രാജ്യ അഴിമതികളെ നിവൃത്തിയും വിവിധസമുദായങ്ങൾക്കും ഒരുപോലെ നീതിനടത്തിയും സമാധാനം പരിപാലിക്കുന്നതിനു ദിവാൻജി അവർകൾ പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുമെന്നുള്ള ഒരു വിചാരം രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ എല്ലാഭാഗങ്ങളിലുമുള്ളവക്കും ഈ സ്വല്പ

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[Mr. Thariathu Kunjithommen.]

കാലംകൊണ്ടു ജനിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതു് അർത്ഥവത്താക്കണം. അതാണ് ഭരണത്തിന്റെ വിജയത്തിന് അടിസ്ഥാനം.

ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ അഴിമതികാം കണ്ടുപിടിക്കാൻ ഒരു മാർഗ്ഗം കൂടെയുണ്ട്. സ്ഥാലീപാകന്യായേന കണ്ടുപിടിക്കണം. ഒരു കായ്ത്തിൽ അഴിമതികാണിക്കുന്നവർ മറ്റു കായ്ങ്ങളിലും അഴിമതി കാണിക്കുമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കാം. ഉദ്യോഗനിയമനകായ്ത്തിൽ ആരെല്ലാമാണ് സ്വജനപക്ഷപാതം കാണിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതെന്നു ലിസ്റ്റു വരുത്തി പരിശോധിച്ചാൽ അറിയാം. മറ്റു കായ്ങ്ങളിൽ കാണിക്കുന്ന അഴിമതി, കണക്കുകൊണ്ടു വെളിപ്പെടുത്താൻ കഴികയില്ലെങ്കിലും ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ കാണിക്കുന്ന അഴിമതി നിയമനലിസ്റ്റിൽ കാണാം. സ്വജനങ്ങളേയും ചാർച്ചക്കാരേയും തന്നെ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളിൽ നിയമിക്കുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ധാരാളമുണ്ട്. ജനങ്ങളുടെ കഷ്ടതകളെ അവർ തീരെ ഗണിക്കുന്നില്ല. പ്രജാവത്സലനായ പൊന്നുതമ്പുരാൻ തിരുമനസ്സിലെ ഉപ്പുംചോറും തിന്നുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ തിരുമനസ്സിലെ വിവിധ സമുദായങ്ങളിൽപ്പെട്ട പ്രജകളുടെ ന്യായമായ അവകാശങ്ങളെയോ സങ്കടങ്ങളെയോപറ്റി ചിന്തിക്കുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ അതിൽപരം അനീതി മറ്റെന്താണ്? എല്ലാവർഗ്ഗങ്ങളേയും ഉദ്യോഗനിയമനവിഷയത്തിൽ ഒരുപോലെ ഗണിക്കണമെന്ന സ്തംഗതിമുൻനിറുത്തി ഒരു കൊല്ലങ്ങളായി ഞാൻ വാദിച്ചു കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയാണ്.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORATHARAKAN (*Kunnatnad cum Parur*) : ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ അഴിമതി നിറുത്താൻ പബ്ലിക്ക് സർവീസു കമ്മീഷണക്കു സാധിക്കുമോ?

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN : രോഗത്തെക്കാൾഭയങ്കരം ഔഷധം എന്നനിലയിലാണു് ആ ഏർപ്പാടിന്റെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ സ്ഥിതി. ചിലതൊഴിച്ചു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ അദ്ദേഹത്തെ നീതിനടത്താൻ അനുവദിക്കുന്നില്ല എന്നാണു അനുഭവംകൊണ്ടു കാണുന്നതു്. സാമുദായിക അസ്വസ്ഥത പരിഹരിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം ന്യായമായി നിയമനങ്ങൾ നടത്തണമെന്ന അടിക്കടിപറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടിരുന്നിട്ടും ഫലമുണ്ടാത്തതിലും ദോഷകരമാണെന്നാണ് ഓരോ നിയമനലിസ്റ്റും തെളിയിക്കുന്നതു്. എല്ലാസമുദായങ്ങളുടെയും അവകാശങ്ങളെ ശരിയായി ഗണിച്ചു നിയമനം നടത്തിയാൽ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ഇടയിൽ സൗഹാർദ്ദവും രാജ്യത്തു സമാധാനവും താനെയുണ്ടാകും. രാജ്യത്തു് നീതി നടക്കുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ഇടയിൽ അസമാധാനവും അസംതൃപ്തിയുമാണല്ലോ ഉണ്ടാവുക. രജ്യത്തിലെ എ

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ല്ലാ സഹോദരസമുദായങ്ങൾക്കും അഭിമാനത്തോടുകൂടി ജീവിക്കത്തവണ്ണം പബ്ളിക്ക് സർവീസിൽ ശരിയായ അവകാശം കൊടുക്കണം. ലജ്ജയും സങ്കടവുംകൊണ്ടു അസമതചസമുദായങ്ങളിലെ ഓരോരുത്തരുടേയും ഹൃദയം കലങ്ങിയിരിക്കുകയാണ്. വമ്പിച്ച ജനവിഭാഗങ്ങളായ ഈഴവർ, കത്തോലിക്കർ, മഹമ്മദീയർ, ഇവരെല്ലാം ഉദ്യോഗനിയമനവിഷയത്തിൽ എന്തുമാത്രം സങ്കടം അനുഭവിക്കുന്നണ്ടെന്നു താഴെപറയുന്ന കണക്കുകൾ കൊണ്ടു തെളിയും. പബ്ളിക്ക് സർവീസിൽ ആകെ ഫസ്റ്റ് ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളുള്ളതിൽ ബ്രാഹ്മണർക്കും, വെള്ള-മലയാളബ്രാഹ്മണരല്ലാത്ത ബ്രാഹ്മണർക്കും, സെക്കന്റ് ഈഴവർക്കും തേർഡ് സിറിയൻകത്തോലിക്കർക്കും, ലാറ്റിൻകത്തോലിക്കർക്കു തേർഡ്—ം, മുസ്ലിമങ്ങൾക്കു നോൺ—ം ആണ്. ഫോർത്തുപക്ഷമേൽശമ്പളമുള്ള വോൺ-ൽ ചിലപ്പോൾ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളുണ്ട്. അതിൽ നമ്പൂരി ബ്രാഹ്മണർക്കും, നായന്മാർക്കും, ഈഴവർക്കും, സിറിയൻ കത്തോലിക്കർക്കും, ലത്തീൻകത്തോലിക്കർക്കും, മുസ്ലിമങ്ങൾക്കുമുണ്ട്.

(At this time Mr. A. Thanu Pillai sood up to ask a question.)

PRESIDENT: The honourable member has sufficient experience in this House. If Mr. Kunjithommen wants to yield his place he may answer him.

MR. V. K. VELAYUDHAN (*Ambalapuzha cum Shertallai*): പബ്ളിക്ക് സർവീസ് കമ്മീഷണരുടെ നിയമനത്തിനുശേഷം ഈ സ്ഥിതിക്കു വല്ല വ്യത്യാസവുമുണ്ടോ?

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN: കൂടുതൽ അസമതചമാണ് അസമതചസമുദായങ്ങൾക്കുണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതു്. അദ്ദേഹത്തെ നീതി ശരിയായി നടത്താൻ അനുവദിക്കാത്ത ഒരന്തരീക്ഷം സൃഷ്ടിച്ചു തടുത്തിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇതു രാജ്യത്തിനുതന്നെ അപമാനകരമായ ഒരു നയമാണ്.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha cum Devicolam*): ജേക്കബൈറ്റ്സിന് എത്ര ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളുണ്ട്?

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN: ഫസ്റ്റ് ഉം ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളുണ്ട്.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum Town*): ഈ നയത്തിനു ഒരു ഭേദഗതി വരാതിരിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള കാരണം പബ്ളിക്കു സർവീസ് ചട്ടങ്ങളുടെ ദോഷമോ കമ്മീഷണരുടെ കൊള്ളരുതായ്മയോ?

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN: തടിയുടെ വളവുമുണ്ട് ആശാരിയുടെ ദൃഷ്ടിവൃത്തിയുമുണ്ട്. പബ്ളിക്കു സർവീസു കമ്മറ്റി നിർദ്ദേശിച്ച ചട്ടങ്ങളല്ല നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

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PRESIDENT : As the honourable member has been interrupted too often I propose to give him two minutes more to finish his observations.

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN : കമ്മറിയിൽ മി: താണുപിള്ളയും ഒരു മെമ്പർ ആയിരുന്നു. കമ്മറിയുടെ ഭൂരിപക്ഷാഭിപ്രായം അനുസരിച്ചല്ലാ ഇപ്പോൾ നടക്കുന്നതു്. ആദ്യം ആക്ടിങ്ങ് അവകാശം ഓരോ സമുദായങ്ങളുടെ പ്രഥമാവകാശമായി ഗണിക്കാനേ പാടുള്ളു എന്നുവച്ചു. ഒടുവിൽ അതു വിസ്മരിച്ചു ബോധിച്ചതുപോലെയുള്ള നിയമനങ്ങളാണു ഇപ്പോൾ നടക്കുന്നതു്. പ്രമാണങ്ങളെക്കാൾ വ്യത്യസ്തങ്ങളാണ് ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ അധികവും. അതിന്റെ ഫലമായി പബ്ലിക്ക സർവീസു കമ്മീഷണരുടെ ആഫീസിൽതന്നെ സവർണ്ണമേധാവിത്വമാണു ഇന്നുള്ളതു്. കമ്മറിയിൽനിന്നും ഒരു ബോർഡുവേണമെന്നും പല അംഗങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കണമെന്നും പറഞ്ഞിരുന്നു. അതൊന്നും ഗണിക്കാതെ ഒരു കമ്മീഷണരെത്തന്നെ വെക്കയും ധാരാളം പ്രാതിനിധ്യമുള്ള ക്ലർക്കരെത്തന്നെ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ ആഫീസ്സിൽ മാനേജരായും ഹെഡ് ക്ലർക്കായും മറ്റും നിയമിക്കയുംചെയ്തു. കമ്മീഷണർ ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ പരിതസ്ഥിതികൾ തീരെ അറിയണ്ടപാടില്ലാത്ത ഒരു ആളാണ്. ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ എത്രതന്നെ യോഗ്യന്മാരായിരുന്നാലും ചിലപ്പോൾ കീഴുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ വിശ്വസിച്ചു അവർ പറയുന്നതുപോലെ പ്രവർത്തിക്കേണ്ടിവന്നേക്കും. എല്ലാ ഫയലുകളും സ്വയം വായിച്ചുനോക്കുക എന്നുള്ളതും അത്ര എളുപ്പമായ കാര്യമല്ലല്ലോ.

MR. KOCHUKORATHARAKAN : കമ്മീഷണർ ഇല്ലാതിരുന്ന സമയത്തു നിയമിച്ച നിയമനങ്ങൾ ശരിയായിരുന്നോ?

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN : മൊത്തത്തിൽ ദോഷകരമാണ് നിയമനങ്ങൾ. ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻ മാത്രമായാൽ ഒരിക്കലും ശരിയായി നടക്കയില്ല. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ കമ്മീഷണരെ ഇവിടെ നിയമിച്ചതുകൊണ്ടു നീതിന്യായവകുപ്പിനു ഒരു നല്ല ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻനഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടു. നിയമനങ്ങളിൽ ഒട്ടു നീതി നടക്കുന്നുമില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഇതിലേക്കു ഒരു സ്റ്റാഫ് സിലക്ഷൻബോർഡ് ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുകയാണു നന്നു്. ഒരു അഡ്വൈസറികമ്മറി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയാലും കൊള്ളാം. കമ്മറിറിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ ഞങ്ങൾ ഇതു പറഞ്ഞിരുന്നു. എന്നാൽ ഇതുവരെ ഗൗനിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. സർ, ശക്തിമത്തും ശ്രേഷ്ഠവും വീരോചിതവുമായ കൃത്യങ്ങളാൽ അക്രമങ്ങളെയും അനീതിയേയും അമർത്തി സകല സമുദായങ്ങളുടെയും അവകാശങ്ങളെ പാലിക്കാൻ ദിവാൻ ശ്രമിക്കണം വിപരീതമായി പ്രവർത്തിച്ചു ശീലിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള

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ചില ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ വിഷ്ണങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ ആവുന്ന ശ്രമം ചെയ്യും. സകല സമുദായങ്ങൾക്കും ഒരുപോലെ നീതി നടത്തിയാൽമാത്രമേ രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ആഭ്യന്തരമായ ക്ഷേമവും ബാഹ്യമായ പ്രശസ്തിയും പരിരക്ഷിക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കൂ.

MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA (*Commerce and Industry, South*): I join the chorus in congratulating the Financial Secretary on presenting a surplus Budget. The budget proposals will more than anything else reveal that the Government is in action and that Government is looking ahead to the future full of promise. This is warranted by the attendant facts. Though there is no special reason to enthuse over the surplus of Rs. 11·52 lakhs expected for the current year according to the revised estimate, which is mainly due to unexpected windfall, however, I believe, that the mere fact that revenues shows an upward trend and according to the Revised Estimate a surplus of Rs. 5·62 lakhs mainly under Land Revenue, Excise, Stamps, Registration etc., is anticipated from the ordinary revenue, indicates the return of better times after a long spell of depression. From these facts it would not be unsafe to conclude that the anticipated increase in the ordinary Revenue for the year 1113, *viz* , Rs. 249·48 lakhs is likely to materialise. If the expected expenditure of Rs. 246·88 lakhs charged to revenue had been calculated with the same amount of conservatism, the anticipated surplus of Rs. 2·60 lakhs also will materialise.

Coming to the financial condition of our State which our learned Financial Secretary has pronounced to be absolutely stable and sound, I am afraid, I share with the learned leader of the National Party some trepidation about it. Sir, the transactions of the coming year leave only a nominal surplus of 2·60 lakhs and on account of capital expenditure undertaken during recent years amounting three crores of rupees, our surplus investments which stand at Rs. 251·03 lakhs at the beginning of 1113 is estimated to be reduced to Rs. 230·67 lakhs at the end of 1113 and our balance is as follows. The opening balance for 1111 which was Rs. 108 lakhs is expected to be reduced to Rs 40 lakhs as the closing balance for 1113. The total booked assets and liabilities of Rs. 509·02 lakhs and Rs. 393·40 lakhs are there. But the fact our surplus investments will be reduced to Rs. 230·67 lakhs and our cash balance dwindling to the bare minimum required, side by side with this such outstanding items as Rs. 189·43 in single item of Savings Bank deposit, which may become payable at any time; unless the Financial Secretary enlighten us better how this situation can be met, we cannot help remarking that we are unable to share his optimism.

PRESIDENT: Presumably, because they are investments in Government securities repayable at pleasure.

MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA: But my consolation is that it is proposed to start immediately a Revenue Reserve Fund by appropriating Rs. 10 lakhs out of the surplus of Rs. 11 lakhs expected according to the

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[Mr. J. E. A. Pereira.]

Revised Estimate for 1112. I hope to ensure further, the stability of our finances, specially in view of our commitments in big schemes which will not only not be abandoned but also considerably augmented in future years by setting larger amounts.

No doubt, a very ambitious programme has been chalked out for the industrialisation of the country. The learned leader of the Samyuktha Party has been pleased to call it, a business prospectus. I think if the prospectus does materialise I submit there are facts, that warrant the inference that it is likely to materialise—then the country will stand to gain immensely. I am glad the programme has been carefully planned in that sufficient attention has been paid for the rehabilitation of agriculture and provision made for the continuance of rural reconstruction. The rehabilitation of agriculture is a necessary prelude and an essential basis for revival of trade, which in its wake, will bring prosperity to the country through industries. The establishment of Conciliation Boards is to be welcomed and it is to be hoped the agriculturists will avail themselves of its beneficial aid more in the near future. It is refreshing to find that it is realised that agriculturists ought not to be allowed to be any longer content with agriculture alone but they may be attracted to subsidiary activities such as growing of cashew nuts, sugar cane, etc. I suggest that Government should give a lead in the matter by establishing experimental plantations of sugarcane, soya beans and other similar crops.

I like to add a few remarks over some of the main items first, to the much-talked of Transport Scheme. I am one with the Government in their attempt to nationalise the Transport services of the State. As much has been said, I shall confine myself by remarking that since transport is one of the primary needs of the country and as such ought to be undertaken by Government, whether it yields profits or not. I feel it is the duty of the Government, to provide efficient and chief transport service. I do not think it is right to look upon it as a commercial proposition. However, if it is efficiently organised and yields profit in practice, it is most welcome. I also feel that some equitable compensation should be paid to those who are running the bus service now.

I would suggest that the Government should chalk out a well-planned programme for completing communication within the State both by road and backwater. This ought to be done within a prescribed period. In this connection, I would like to point out the necessity for reopening the defunct A. V. M. Canal between Trivandrum and Colachel as this will greatly stimulate trade between Nanjinad and Central Travancore.

As regards the university scheme, had a skeleton of a scheme been made available to this House, it would have enabled us to understand the scheme better and as regards the reorientation of the ideals I welcome it most heartly. It has been universally admitted that the

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present curriculam inculcated in our universities is ideally unsuited to our tradition and culture not to speak of the fact that it has been a complete failure from an utility point of view. As regards the argument that has been used by members on the floor of this House that the new departure will not be in keeping with other Universities of India, but I for one, feel that it behoves the much enlightned State of Travancore to set up new ideals of University which will subserve the real needs of the country and thereby will be an example for others to follow.

As regards the Pallivasal Scheme, the expenditure seems to be interminable; however, I do hope that final instalments of Rs. 20 lakhs bringing the total to Rs. 136 lakhs will see the scheme in functioning order. As an industrialist I like to see the completion of the scheme and beginning of the supply of electrical energy will be expedited, and I have no misgiving as to the remunerative feature, in addition it will stimulate industry very much.

It is rather regrettable to find that no provision is made in the budget estimate for next year for the improvements of the ports of the State. The demand for improving the various ports is urgent. Our ports are becoming more active and are attracting more shipping. Both in the number of steamers and in tonnage there is substantial increase in recent years. Better landing facilities are over-due for Quilon. In a memorandum recently submitted to you, Sir, a scheme for a pier for Quilon has been drawn out involving an outlay of Rs. 3 lakhs and it is shown there that the scheme can be successfully worked not only in a self-supporting manner but also on a remunerative scale and I do hope the attention of the Government will be drawn to this at the earliest during the ensuing year.

The creation of a Stores Purchase Committee and steps suggested to prevent smuggling of tobacco in the Northern Frontier are moves in the right direction and are calculated to ensure great saving and revenue respectively.

Sir, it is gratifying to find that a sum of Rs. 6·6 lakhs is provided for new communications and for completing works in progress. Roads in general have become very bad—especially M. S. Road. I think that recently P. W. D. is not as alive as it was some years back to see that this road is kept in a satisfactory condition. Again the Trunk Telephone scheme has not yet become an accomplished fact. If I am right, correspondence regarding this matter was started since a few years with the Imperial Government and yet we could not complete the agreement. I hope this will be expedited and service started next year itself as suggested in the Financial Secretary's speech.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: The Financial Secretary has to be congratulated for the successful way in which he has prepared the Budget. He is of the view that the financial condition of our State is absolutely stable and sound. And he assures us that we can reasonably look forward

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to an era of prosperity. The Dewan President's speech taken along with the budget gives us an idea that we are launching upon big schemes and plans and that we are in the threshold of great changes: financial, educational, industrial and agricultural. But one fears and honestly too that he has to restrain himself from extravagant anticipations. No doubt, the budget is full of high promises and rampant with jubilant optimism, but one is, at the same time, inclined to ask what provision has it made for the crying needs of the day and what provision has it made for ameliorating the deplorable condition of the agricultural classes. Village reconstruction which has attracted the attention of all advanced Governments has been ignored, and the Financial Secretary's speech has failed to explain whether the industrial and agricultural departments intend doing anything substantial to the people. The President, in his speech, has referred to the importance of the agricultural population being provided with side industries. But this too has failed to find an adequate place in the budget. It has to be remembered in this connection that people have little faith in the usefulness of the present debt conciliation boards. Some other means have to be found out for relieving them of their indebtedness. It is true that an additional amount of Rs. 16,000 from that of the current year has been set apart for the Agricultural Department. But this amount is too small when compared to the big problems confronting the ryots. And for industries the budget allotment is Rs. 60,000 less than the current year's. As for Co-operative Societies which experience has taught us to be one of the best mediums for the uplift of the agricultural classes the provision made is too meagre. Nothing has been provided for the development of the Department as per recommendations made by the Devadhar Committee. No provision has been made for removing illiteracy which stands at a high percentage in spite of the fact that our country stands head and shoulders in point of education. The work of the grant school teachers and the grant schools have to be encouraged in this connection and the recommendations of the Statham Committee have to be given effect to. The Unemployment Enquiry Committee and its recommendations are uppermost in one's mind in this connection. And in the Budget we find no provision made to work the Scheme. In fact the Budget is one prepared for the consumers and not for the producers who form the bulk of the population and the backbone of the country. It is intended for the rich and the leisurely who live in towns and enjoy the comforts of life. The desparate feeling of the agricultural classes has been completely ignored. One is induced to think that none of the pious hopes launched for the future are conducive to the wellbeing of the agriculturist at present. The policy of the ministers of the British Indian Provinces may with profit be adopted by the Government and it is high time to be realised that in the development of the country side alone lies the true salvation of the State.

The Financial Secretary concludes by saying that we hope to close the accounts of the next year with a surplus. Some of my predecessors

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have tried to point out by facts and figures that it is not exactly a surplus Budget. Whatever that be, the Financial Secretary's statement that the improvement under Land Revenue is due to the better collection of the accumulated arrears has to be particularly noted. And what is meant by this better collection of the accumulated arrears. I leave it for this House to Judge. Hundreds and hundreds of plots of cultivable land belonging to the poor ryots are being sold out in public auction for arrears of land revenue and the poor ryots are deprived of their sole possession in the world for keeping body and soul together. Surely this is not a healthy state of affairs particularly in a poor country like ours and I would appeal to the Government with all earnestness I can command, that ways and means should be found out for minimising at least of this helpless state of affairs of the agriculturist. With regard to the surplus budget itself I may be permited to make an observation. By surplus it is ordinarily meant, that it is derived from the land revenue and it ought in propriety and morale be returned to the tax payers themselves. This may be effected firstly by reducing the burden of taxation and secondly by providing facilities for enhancing the income of the agriculturist. This surplus budget seems to have not cared for both. So the surplus budget is not a surplus budget in fact. It shows the budget has not the people's interest in mind. Experts are emphatic in their opinion that a surplus budget shows that people's interest has not been cared for.

I may now turn to the Public Services. Though the principle of communal representation has been recognised in the matter of appointments to the State services it has not begun to work its desired effect to any appreciable extent. I may speak in relation to the Ezhava community which is numerically the largest community in the State and which in point of education and other advaucements of life are not far behind the most advanced communities of the State. So high an authority as the late Mr. M. E. Watts, a former Dewan of the State had all praise for the unequalled industrial habits of the community and he went to the extent of saying that Ezhava women through the income they were able to earn from the coir industry actually fed the entire populace of the country. But the representation of this community in the Public Services is lamentably poor in spite of the fact that qualified hands have ever and anon been alert to apply to the authorities concerned for getting themselves enlisted. In the Police Department itself I understand that there have been more than 30 Inspectors appointed since 1108 and none among these has been an Ezhava. In the Medical Department there have been 24 appointments made in the cadre of Assistant Surgeons since 1103 and no Ezhava has been able to secure a place in the list though there have been duly qualified applicants in plenty. It has also to be noted that there is only one Ezhava in the cadre of Assistant Surgeons in the whole of the Department. The General and Revenue Secretariat and Account Office taken together, there are about 110 appointments getting a salary of Rs. 100 and above and with a single exception of an Ezhava having been recently promoted to the place of a Secretary, the list is devoid of

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Ezhavas. In the Education Department excepting a handful of Ezhava graduate teachers, the list is non-representative of Ezhava graduates. The portals of the colleges seem to have been closed perpetually against Ezhava applicants for appointments. The recent G. O, in the Judiciary has deprived the community of what little chance it had in that Department. Of late there have been made about a dozen high appointments in the State but no Ezhava could find a place in this list also. The policy underlying these seem to my mind inscrutable. The Public Service Commissioner's hands seem to be fettered in several respects. Unless the three Divisions namely, higher, intermediate and lower are transferred to the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commissioner in the matter of appointment and Government interference stopped, the Public Service Commissioner will be serving no useful purpose at all. The suggestion of a Staff Selection Board or an Advisory Board as the one existing in Mysore may be adopted with considerable advantage.

PRESIDENT: The honourable member has only two minutes more.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: I may now proceed to the top heavy administrations and the corruption in the Public Services. The very high salaries and the many unnecessary appointments referred to by my predecessors and the wasteful expenditure under many heads make the administration topheavy. Corruption is the one prevailing factor in almost all departments of the State. In the lower and intermediate grade and even in the higher grade, bribery runs rampant. Even the Judiciary is not exempted from this general rule and in the ministerial division of the judiciary, especially in mofussil parts it is alarmingly on the increase. The only solution seems to me to entrust the matter of investigation to the C. I. D. directly responsible to the Dewan or with a special staff constituted both of officials and non-officials to whom the C. I. D. will be responsible for their enquiries. The C. I. D. ought to be improved and effectively organised so as to serve this most fundamental need of the country successfully and not to hunt down honest citizens from street to street as a particular editor of the locality was reported to have been hunted down in recent times.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. Does the member make himself responsible for that statement.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: The instance of the Chief Justice of the Punjab High Court taking active measures for purging judiciary of corruption may be followed with advantage here also.

I would conclude by making a few suggestions. Agriculture must be reorganised so that all the food materials we require may be produced here. Coconut palm should be saved from the fatal disease to which it has fallen a pray to and market should be found out for products like coconut, cashewnut, coir and other industrial products. Revenue from he Abkari Department should be decreased as much as possible in

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adherence to the proclaimed policy of the Government. Compulsory elementary education must be introduced and Poor Relief must be effected successfully.

PRESIDENT: The honourable member is exceeding his time.

MR. E. SUBRAMONIA IYER (*Nominated*): Sir, let me at the outset congratulate the Financial Secretary for the presentation, as he puts it, a true and accurate picture of the financial operation in the State. The complaints of some honourable members here are that sufficient attention has not been paid in the budget for the provision for the relief of agricultural indebtedness in the State.

PRESIDENT: It is hardly necessary for me to advise the honourable member to raise his voice a little as he is accustomed to do so.

MR. E. SUBRAMONIA IYER: Sir, I was saying that the complaint of some of the honourable members here is that sufficient attention was not paid in the budget for the provision for the relief of agricultural indebtedness. Now in respect of that what I feel is this. Steps and measures are being taken by the Government in that direction. They are sufficiently alive to the conditions of the ryot, rather his pitiable condition and the necessity for the immediate relief of the burden he bears. There is the Conciliation Board and other measures Contemplated for the relief of the agriculturists. It is one thing to deal with a symptom of a disease and it is another thing to take measures for the removal of the disease itself. We want to see the agriculturist made prosperous in a day. Well in my view it is not an easy task. There should be time. In the speech made by the Dewan President he has pointed out that the Government is fully alive to the conditions of the agriculturist and to make him prosperous the Government propose to play an increased part in the economic life of the State. The capital and the industrial schemes put forward by Government are with a view to bring about these results. For example schemes for the industrialisation of the State, and the creation of subsidiary industries are being devised to make the agriculturists more prosperous. For that purpose as was pointed out in the speech of the Dewan President a complete reorientation of the system of education is necessary. I don't think that there can be two opinions on this matter. Everywhere it is said that our present system of education is not suited to the needs of the country. The difference is only about the manner or method or nature of the education which one should have. The Government point out that more attention should be paid to the education which would enable a person to find a living, not only by entering services but also by self effort and such other methods. Now apprehension is no doubt entertained that after all whether the Government will be able to accomplish that result. Because of such apprehension are we to wait thinking of facts and figures over all these schemes without making a move. We should have what I may say a dynamic experimental mentality. There is no harm I would submit, in making bold experimental schemes to see whether it is possible for us to beneficial to the country and to its citizens.

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[Mr. E. Subramonia Iyer.

Then another point also I have to state. For the industrialisation of the country, money is required. Now as the budget indicates, rather, as the Financial Secretary says, that without additional taxation and without borrowing he has been able to find money for these schemes of industrialisation. So far as taxation is concerned I believe we have reached the maximum taxable capacity of the State. And in the address of the Dewan he has pointed out that the intention of the Government is to adjust the taxation according to differing degrees of ability to pay and that progressively. It is not possible to increase the taxation on Land. Increase of taxation on commodities will affect the poor citizens. We may have taxations like income-tax and super-tax and such other methods of taxation which would make rich men pay. Other methods of taxation, such as estate duty and inheritance tax may be resorted to if they would work equitable distribution of the natural income. The most burning question of the day is how to improve the economic life of the country. The Government have their schemes and plans to meet these demands. Apart from the Electricity and Water Supply Schemes we come to Transport and Trade. These were solely the business of private individuals. My own view on this matter is this. Transport by automobiles, has become a normal feature of the country. In fact we are used to it. It is no more a luxury but it has become a necessity. Whether the business yields profit or not it is the duty of the State to ensure efficient transport for the citizens. Not only efficient should it be but it must be safe, adequate, and continuous. Now for stability it should not be entrusted to institutions whose continuance cannot be assured. In certain countries it is entrusted to public utility enterprises on a joint stock basis. Even as a matter of public utility in America the Government interfere in the affairs of such concerns by control of the issue of stocks, by fixing the rate and looking after the comforts and conveniences of passengers. So, we see that even in America, the country of the dollar where there are millionaires the State has taken the whole control of the Transport Scheme so that the service must be stable and enduring. But when we approach the problem here we are to judge it by the conditions obtaining here. The question is not an abstract one. It is not a question whether it is natural to do this or not to do this. If we are to have an adequate, safe, efficient transport system it should not be entrusted to an institution of whose stability we are not sure. If an institution which runs the business breaks or becomes insolvent the whole traffic is dislocated. If my view the condition of the country is such that the State is the only institution which can efficiently and satisfactorily go on with this business. Whether it is profitable or not the transport not only from Nagercoil to Trivandrum but the transport of the whole of Travancore must be brought under the new scheme. And if the scheme yields a profit why should it not go to the public treasury? So I would commend the transport scheme.

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My suggestion is that, in regard to such items of service to the public, once we find that they are paying, it is better that they augment the public treasury so that we may utilise such income for all nation-building activities.

So far as the budget is concerned, our revenues can be enhanced by additional taxation, as I have already indicated. Of course there is also the other alternative, of the State borrowing and spending on capital schemes. But it must be realised that, if we borrow frequently, the credit of the State will be affected. No doubt, we can prevent leakage of revenue, leakage of income tax and leakage of duty through smuggling.

In regard to the revenue anticipated by the Financial Secretary, I hope and wish that the Financial Secretary will be able to realise his anticipations. He says in his speech :—

> "It is however necessary that we should not relax our vigilance in regard to the control of expenditure or our efforts for securing economy as far as possible".

The Financial Secretary rightly lays stress on vigilance over the control of expenditure. No doubt that is necessary. But, errors of judgment also appear to occur. I would suggest that, in addition to vigilance in the matter of control of expenditure, Government should see that errors of judgment are avoided as far as possible. I am making specific reference to the mistake which was committed in regard to the Pallivasal Scheme and which has led to loss of public money. I hope Government would see that such errors are not repeated; because, if such errors are repeated, any amount of vigilance in regard to the control of expenditure may not be of any avail, and we will be forced to spend more and more.

In regard to Land Revenue, I hope the Land Revenue Commissioner will be able to collect all the land revenue anticipated, without resorting to coercive steps.

SRIMATHI T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*): The Budget presented by the learned Financial Secretary, is of an exceptional character disclosing a new era of progress and prosperity. The speech with which he has introduced the Budget is also one on which he deserves to be heartily congratulated. You, Sir, have rightly said that the speech is characterised by "lucidity, thoroughness, and comprehensiveness". Indeed, it is one of the most lucid and comprehensive speeches that any legislature has had the privilege of listening to from a Financial Secretary. A sincere and earnest attempt is visible in every sentence of it to show the true, clear and correct position of the State's Finances. I, beg to add my humble quota of thanks and congratulations to the learned Financial Secretary for his notable budget utterance.

As regards the budget itself, Sir, it presents several gratifying features. Not only does it show, in the words of the Financial Secretary, that the financial condition of our State is absolutely stable and sound, but it also envisages a new era of increased industrial, educational and commercial activities of which we have every reason to be proud.

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[Srimathi T. Narayani Amma.]

Coming to a detailed examination of the budget, I do not wish to traverse the grounds already covered by hon'ble members who have preceded me; I propose to speak only on one or two important matters.

I am glad, Sir, to find that the condition of the backward communities is engaging the special attention of the Government, and that a steady, systematic and intensive work for their uplift is being arranged to be carried on. The fact that a major head 'Uplift of Backward Communities', has been added on to the budget shows the interest taken in and the importance attached to the subject, by the Government.

Coming to Medical, I particularly appreciate the allotment made to make the Women and Childrens' Hospital increasingly useful. In this connection I wish to point out that the appointment of a lady Assistant Surgeon in each of the more important hospitals of the State is sure to be very much appreciated by the large number of women patients seeking medical aid from these institutions.

With reference to the work relating to maternity and child welfare for which some provision, has, I find, been made in the Budget, I feel, speaking as a woman, that though I very much appreciate the efforts that are now being made in this direction, there is certainly scope for more extended activities. *Three* Public Health nurses and *five* midwives are absolutely inadequate for a State like Travancore. I venture to hope that a more comprehensive scheme of maternity and child welfare will soon be introduced.

On the question of education, I echo the sentiments already expressed by several others in welcoming the proposed new university. The establishment of a university of the type visualised in the various utterances of the Dewan will constitute a new and notable land-mark in the onward march of Travancore; and the sincere and hearty thanks of every patriotic and public-spirited person will go to the great Ruler who guides the destinies of this State, and to the talented statesman who happens to be His Highness' trusted Minister. I must say, Sir, that I am sorry to find that the only first grade women's college in the State has been reduced to the Second Grade. In saying this I am only voicing the sentiments of the large number of educated women of this State. There may be several circumstances which induced Government to take such a step; Nevertheless, I feel, that the institution ought to be allowed to continue as a first grade college. I hope this question will, if possible, be reconsidered by the Government.

In conclusion, I again thank the Financial Secretary for his Budget and for his speech introducting it.

MR. V. K. VELAYUDHAN: Sir, some of the hon'ble Members of this House have been congratulating the Financial Secretary for the policy of the Government underlying the budget. Having bestowed my anxious consideration on it, I confess, I do not see eye to eye with

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them. To my mind, it appears the budget stands condemned in more respects than one.

The Financial Secretary has concluded his budget speech saying complacently that the financial condition of our State is "absolutely stable and sound" and that the State revenue is expected to stand at Rs. 251·54 lakhs in the current year which he calls a peak point never before reached in the annals of the State. This figure comprises a sum of Rs. 24·42 lakhs representing the accumulated income accrued due from the Cochin Harbour for the last four years. This cannot be called a portion of the year's income. Making due allowance for this accumulated amount, the current year's revenue may well be taken at Rs. 233 and odd lakhs. The Financial Secretary in presenting a revised estimate for the current year showing a surplus of 11·51 lakhs should in fairness to the House have adverted to this fact.

The Government account balance which stood at Rs. 170·1 lakhs in the year 1104 is expected to be reduced to Rs. 74·61 lakhs at the close of the current year and to Rs. 40·32 lakhs at the close of 1113. This steady decline ought to arrest the attention of the Government.

According to the Financial Secretary the "future is full of promise." He expects that when the Federation comes, it would bring home relief to our finances. Some of the important items of our income are bound to go to the Federal Revenue.

PRESIDENT: If we federate in respect of those items.

MR. V. K. VELAYUDHAN: Making allowance for the contribution we might get from the Federal Revenue I fail to see how Federation would bring relief to our revenues as prophesied by the Financial Secretary. I hope the Financial Secretary will enlighten the House on this point. Government expect an increase in revenue under Tax on Income and under Excise by means of stringent measures they propose to take to prevent leakage in Income Tax and smuggling of tobacco in the Northern Frontier. I do not feel sanguine about the results anticipated on this account.

The liabilities of the State on account of Savings Bank Deposits alone are expected to stand at Rs. 194·435 lakhs at the close of 1113. This amount is payable on demand. I do not know how the Government is going to meet this contingency otherwise than by drawing against the guilt-edged securities which stand at Rs. 175·731 lakhs this year and which are expected to be reduced to Rs. 155·374 lakhs at the close of the next year. I do not wish to say anything more on this aspect of our financial position. The House may well imagine where we are drifting.

Passing on to the expenditure items of the bubget, it is highly regrettable that substantial amounts have not been allotted to nation-building and social service departments. The honourable member Mr. Aditchen has placed before the House the other day the miserable plight of the downtrodden backward communities in the State. The amount allotted for their uplift is only Rs. 25,268. This amount, I

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[Mr. V. K. Velayudhan.]

need not say, is too meagre to render any substantial help to these half-clad half-starved people.

On the floor of this House and outside, there have been incessant demand for the improvement in the means of communication by the construction of roads, canals and bridges. No amount allotted for these items would be too much. Improved facilities in the means of communication, particularly in the rural areas, are bound to enhance the financial resources of the country. The total allotment of Rs. 90,460 for the construction of roads, canals and bridges throughout the State is not at all sufficient to meet the needs of the country.

I would expect any progressive Government to make ample provision for the dissemination of knowledge about men and things among the masses. The illiteracy and ignorance of our masses are appalling. The meagre allotment of Rs. 15,000 for the introduction of the State Library System is too small to meet the needs on this account. I would, in this connection urge upon the Government the necessity of going into the question of introduction of free compulsory elementary education.

Adequate medical relief and sanitation, relief to the distress of the peasants and the labour who form the bulk of the population and relieving the unemployment among the educated and the uneducated, all are the pressing needs of the people. Government may say they have no funds. But I ask how do they find money for broad-casting and town planning. I find a sum of Rs. 1·5 lakhs for brord-casting and Rs. 3·62 lakhs for town planning.

PRESIDENT: I thought the honourable member emphasised the necessity for educating the rural population. Broad-casting is intended for that purpose, I suppose.

MR. V. K. VELAYUDHAN: I should not be understood to deprecate measures calculated to improve the amenities of the Capital and to beautify it But the primary function of Government consists in serving the fundamental needs of the population, items of luxury being always assigned a secondary place.

The policy of the Government in launching upon new schemes before consulting the Legislature cannot be too strongly condemned by the House. We are in the dark as to the details involved in the transport and the University Schemes. In matters like this, Government must take us into their confidence and place the whole scheme before the House. These schemes which vitally affect the future prosperity and happiness of the State have to be carefully examined. I would invite the very serious attention of this House to the sorry phenomenon of the Government not taking the public and the Legislature into their confidence even in matters of launching new schemes of vital importance and far reaching consequences. Why not Government introduce to this House Bills embodying their schemes on transport and University and get its verdict?

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I shall be failing in my duty to the public if I do not draw the attention of this House and the Government to the urgent need for taking drastic measures for securing to all communities their due representation in the public service. There is no use gainsaying the fact that this problem has created much unrest and communal bickering in the country. With all the force I can command, I may proclaim on the floor of this House that the only way to foster harmony, concord and comity among the various communities in the State is to make effective provisions for securing to all communities representation in the public service in proportion to population. With these words I resume my seat.

MR. KAINIKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanacherry* cum *Peermade*): Sir, this first budget presented for discussion before this Assembly reminds me of the vastly different conditions under which the last Assembly met to discuss its first budget. The last Assembly met in 1108 to discuss its first budget, with the economic depression at its worst and the impoverished country thrice submerged in disastrous floods. So it must be with a sigh of relief that those of us who were members of that Assembly also take up the budget for 1113. At that time we had before us the actuals for 1107, the lowest on record for the past several years. The conditions have changed and now the revised estimate for 1112 anticipates that the revenue will stand at Rs. 32,25,000 above that of 1107 and that it will even break the record of 1104 by Rs. 37,000. The economic depression has certainly loosened its hold and the country has definitely regained its financial balance. The storm has subsided, and if the foam still continues, it only helps to sweeten the escape by the retrospect of the danger that is past.

But 1104 was a dangerous year. It was at the end of 1104 that the Government, illuded by the prosperity of the previous years, lost their heads and it was even then that economic depression pulled them by their legs. Once the Government had lost their balance, it took for them eight years to regain it. The financial history of this country for the last eight years is a record of desparate struggle on the one hand to find funds to finance the huge capital enterprises and on the other to keep the equilibrium between the increasing expenditure on administration and the precarious sources of revenue. But Government has successfully emerged from the struggle. We must congratulate the Government and thank God.

The restoration of the financial equilibrium is perceptible in the very form of the Financial Secretary's speech. It has gained a degree of directness and lucidity which was conspicuously and often purposely lacking in the recent budget speeches. Evidently the necessity for quibbles and conundrums is over and the Financial Secretary is in a position to give us plain facts and he has done it.

Yet I find it impossible for him to escape the rooted practice of supplying illusory statements. I may give one example. He tells us

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[Mr. Kainikara M. Padmanabha Pillai.]

that the Government have financed capital expenditure amounting to Rs. 3 crores. He asks us to add together 80, 15, 132, 28, 12 and 33 and shows that the sum is 300, a piece of unmistakable arithmetic. So far we have the plain-speaking lucid Financial Secretary. But then he adds one small sweet sentence. He says "it is remarkable that our finances have successfully withstood the strain to which they were subjected". He calmly leaves it there and leaves us to gloat on the affluence of this country and the cleverness of the administrators. With his permission, I might offer him another set of numbers—the closing balance amounting to Rs. 170 lakhs at the end of 1105, the railway sinking fund amounting to Rs. 71 lakhs at the end of 1107, the loan of Rs. 50 lakhs raised in 1112 and the overdraft of Rs. 31 lakhs at the end of 1113. I hope that the Financial Secretary has added them together. He will find that the aggregate amounts to Rs. 322 lakhs another piece of unmistakable arithmetic.

I have no quarrel at all against the capital expenditure. On the contrary that is the one point on which I would sincerely congratulate the Government. What I would point out is that there has been no remarkable achievement whatever in the financial administration of the country. All their efforts at retrenchment have miserably failed and the expenses on the administration has gone up beyond all dimensions. It is at the end of 8 years that we have come back to the level of 1104. But according to the budget estimate for 1113 the receipts stand at Rs. 1,60,000 below that of 1104 and the expenditure Rs. 19,08,000 above that of the same year. The Financial Secretary tells us that in a progressive country like ours the expenditure is bound to increase. Yes, but should it increase in bounds and sometimes increase unbounded? There has not been a single session of this Assembly or of the old Council when the members on this side of the House have not warned the Government against this dangerous increase in expenditure. The Government themselves have made one or two attempts. The formation of the Retrenchment Committee and the more recent standardisation scheme are examples to the point. But these half-hearted attempts have inevitably failed. Now the Financial Secretary tells us that even the small saving which was effected by the standardisation scheme is to be swept off and as a result the expenditure has risen by Rs. 1 lakh per year. Our previous Financial Secretaries at least pretended to respect retrenchment. No such thing with the present one, thanks to his lucidity.

Coming to the expenditure on capital work I have but unstinted praise to offer. Since 1109 a conspicuous change has taken place in the financial policy of the State. The change has manifested in four ways, namely, (i) spending the accumulated surplusses on schemes calculated to promote the economic prosperity of the state and to advance the social amenities of the citizens; (ii) the separation of the reproductive schemes from general accounts and bringing it under a new head under debt heads; (iii) the flotation of loans for financing

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such schemes; and (iv) the dissociation from direct control of purely commercial concerns. The most important question appears to me to be if these new features are acceptable or not. All other questions are questions of detail. I, for one, have no hesitation to offer my whole-hearted support. Next year is expected to close with an over draft of Rs. 31 lakhs and the financial commitments would require another Rs. 70 lakhs. In other words, by the time the present schemes would have been completed we would have exhausted our surpluses amounting to Rs 241 lakhs including the railway sinking fund, we would have floated a loan of Rs. 50 lakhs and the Government account would end with an overdraft of Rs. 100 lakhs, on the whole amounting to a sum very little below Rs. 4 crores. The Government have certainly followed a very courageous and creative financial policy during these years.

Before passing on to the next point, I would point out that out of the Rs, 4 crores only Rs. 2 crores have been spent on really reproductive works, the other two crores having been spent on necessary schemes but by no means repaying. It has also to be remembered that even in reproductive schemes mistakes and mishaps are not absolutely impossible. Therefore it appears to me that, at this stage, it would be wiser for Government to concentrate their attention on the schemes already launched upon, to see to their successful completion, to study if and how far they will be repaying and then to launch upon fresh schemes. I would also suggest that the revenues from these concerns should not be absorbed into the general revenue but, after deducting the interest on investment and the depreciation value, it should go to form a separate fund and that fund should finance schemes of a similar nature. It would avoid a misleading inflation of general revenues, it would reduce the necessity for floating loans and it would earmark a steadily growing income which can be utilised for expenditure on reproductive capital works.

One word more on another aspect and I have done. The Government machinery everywhere is slow to move and it was the slowest in this country. I have always felt it something like a steam engine roller. Its whistle shakes everything, it appears to be in an eternal hurry to move, but it never moves. Now, our Government is no longer the old sleepy, sluggish plodder. It has gained a new quickness and a new life. It has not only begun to move but it has begun to fly and to fly at a jovial giddy speed. Within one year Government have attempted and successfully atetmpted to meet very many longstanding complaints and long-felt needs. They have taken up the question of supply of pure drinking water in right earnest. They have provided facilities for the cultivation of tobacco. They have succeeded in getting the right to go through the accounts of the South Indian Railway Company so that in future we may have at least the satisfaction of being convinced of the loss we have to compensate. They have launched on a determined fight against the notorious and scandalous smuggling of tobacco on the northern frontiers. I purposely leave aside the transport question and the University Scheme because I think they deserve a more detailed comment and I shall take them up when the demands come.

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[Mr. Kainikara M. Padmanabha Pillai.]

In conclusion, Sir, the Government have financed capital expenditure to the value of Rs. 4 crores and yet our assets are sound and our debt position is satisfactory. They have enunciated and followed a new and intelligent financial policy. They have earnestly endeavoured to meet very many longstanding demands and to remove many of the rooted evils. They have gained a new and vigorous life. With the one exception of the steadily increasing expenditure on the administrative machinery which I would warn them against with all my force, I have but my whole-hearted congratulations to offer to the Government and to the Financial Secretary.

SRY. K. DEVAKI ANTARJANAM (*Nominated*) : സർ, മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലെ ഗവണ്മെണ്ടിൽനിന്നും മലയാളബ്രാഹ്മണസമുദായത്തിലെ ഒരു പ്രതിനിധിയെക്കൂടി നാമിനേറ്റു ചെയ്തതിൽ സമുദായത്തിനുള്ള കൃതജ്ഞത സീമാതീതമാണ്.

ബഡ്ജറ്റു ത്രുപീകരണത്തിൽ ഫൈനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറിയെ അഭിനന്ദിക്കുന്നു. രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കുവേണ്ടി പല സ്കീമുകളും നിർദ്ദേശിക്കുകയും അതിലേക്ക് നല്ല തുകകളും നീക്കിവയ്ക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടും ചെറിയ ഒരു തുക മിച്ചം കാണുന്നുണ്ട്. ഫൈനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറിയുടെ പ്രസംഗംകൊണ്ടു തൃപ്തിപ്പെടാത്തവർക്കു ദിവാൻജി അവർകളുടെ വിശദീകരണം പ്രയോജനപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കണം. കഴിഞ്ഞ സെൻസസു റിപ്പോർട്ടനുസരിച്ചു തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ മലയാളബ്രാഹ്മണർ പതിനാലായിരത്തോളം വരുന്നു. പണ്ടു ഈ സമുദായത്തിനു പല പ്രാമാണ്യതകളും പദവികളും ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നതായി പറയുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിലും ഇന്നത്തെ അവരുടെനില വളരെ ശോചനീയമാണു. യാഥാസ്ഥിതികത്വത്തിലും അന്ധതയിലും കഴിഞ്ഞുവരുന്ന ഒരു സമുദായമാണ് മലയാളബ്രാഹ്മണസമുദായം. എന്നാൽ നമ്മുടെ മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലെ സുപ്രസിദ്ധമായ ക്ഷേത്രപ്രവേശനവിളംബരത്തോടുകൂടി സമുദായാംഗങ്ങളുടെ വ്യത്യയകവാടം തുറക്കുകയും ജ്ഞാനദീപത്തിന്റെ പ്രകാശത്താൽ അന്ധത ഇപ്പോൾ നീങ്ങിത്തുടങ്ങുകയും ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നു. സാമ്പത്തികമായ ചില മേന്മകളും ഈ സമുദായത്തിനുണ്ടെന്നു പറയുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിലും ഇതുപോലെ അവശതകളും-അസ്വാതന്ത്ര്യങ്ങളും—അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന സമുദായം വേറൊന്നില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു പിന്നോക്കസമുദായങ്ങളുടെ ക്രമത്തിൽ ഈ സമുദായത്തേയും ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തേണ്ടതാണ്. സ്ത്രീകളുടെ ഇടയിൽ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം തീരെയില്ല. അന്തർജനങ്ങളിൽ അധികംപേരും ഘോഷാസമ്പ്രദായം അനുഷ്ഠിക്കുന്നവരാണ്. അവർക്കു കണ്ണുണ്ടെങ്കിലും നല്ല കാഴ്ചകൾ കണ്മാൻ പാടില്ല. കാൽ ഉണ്ടെങ്കിലും വേണ്ടവിധത്തിൽ സഞ്ചരിക്കാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാ.

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ഗൃഹത്തിലുള്ള ചില സാമാനങ്ങളുടെ സ്ഥിതിയാണ് അവർക്കുള്ളത്. കാലക്ഷേപത്തിനു മാർഗ്ഗമുള്ള കുടുംബങ്ങളിലെ സ്ത്രീകൾപോലും സാമ്പത്തികദുരിതം നല്ലപോലെ അനുഭവിക്കുന്നു. ചുരുക്കിപ്പറഞ്ഞാൽ ഒരന്തർജനം ഒരു ജയിൽജീവിയാണ്. അവർക്കു കാവൽക്കാരുണ്ട്; ജയിൽസൂപ്രണ്ടുമാരുമുണ്ടു; അവൾക്കു ശ്വാസവായു ശ്വസിക്കേണ്ടു; ലോകം കാണുകയും വേണ്ടു; ഒരന്തർജനം കരഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു ഭ്രഷ്ടാതയാകുന്നു; കരഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു ജീവിക്കുന്നു; കരഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു മരിക്കുകയുംചെയ്യുന്നു. അതിനാൽ അന്തർജനങ്ങളെക്കൂടി അധഃകൃത ലിസ്റ്റിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തി വിദ്യാഭ്യാസപ്രമായ അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കുവേണ്ടി അവരെ സഹായിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. മലയാളബ്രാഹ്മണർ പൊതുവിൽ അധഃകൃതർക്കു സമമാണെന്നു പറയുന്നതിനു ഞാനൊട്ടും മടിക്കുന്നില്ല.

തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ പിന്നോക്കസമുദായങ്ങളുടെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കുവേണ്ടി അടുത്തകൊല്ലത്തിൽ കൂടുതലായി ചിലതെല്ലാം നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്താൻ പോകുന്നതായി കാണുന്നുണ്ടു. അവരുടെ ആരോഗ്യപരവും സാമൂഹ്യവും ആയ അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കുവേണ്ടി എത്രഅധികം പണം ചെലവാക്കിയാലും അതു് അധികമായിപ്പോയെന്നു പറയാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. ഗ്രാമീണ്ഉപനിവേശസങ്കേതം ഒന്നുകൊണ്ടുമാത്രം ഏറ്റും പോരാതിരിക്കുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഒന്നോ രണ്ടോ സങ്കേതങ്ങൾകൂടി സ്ഥാപിക്കേണ്ടതത്യാവശ്യംതന്നെയാണ്.

സർവ്വകലാശാലയെപ്പറ്റിയാണ് ഇനി എനിക്കു ചിലതു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്. സർവ്വകലാശാലകൊണ്ടു രാജ്യത്തിനു് അഭിവൃദ്ധിയും അഭിമാനവും ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതാണ്. നമ്പൂതിരിമാരുടെ വൈദികപാടങ്ങൾക്കും കൊടുക്കുന്ന ഒരു വൻപിച്ചതുകയെടുത്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു സർവ്വകലാശാല സ്ഥാപിക്കേണ്ടതാണ് എന്നു നമ്പൂതിരിയോഗക്ഷേമമഹാസഭ ഫ ൦ കൊല്ലത്തിനു മുൻപേതന്നെ അഭിപ്രായം പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഒരു രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ സാമ്പത്തികമായ അടിയുറപ്പിനു സാങ്കേതികമായ പഠിപ്പും തൽപ്രവർത്തനങ്ങളും ഏറ്റവും അത്യാവശ്യമാണ്. സർവ്വകലാശാലയുടെ ആവിർഭാവത്തോടുകൂടി വിദ്യാഭ്യാസസമ്പ്രദായത്തിനു് ഒരു മാറ്റം വരുമെന്നാശിക്കുന്നു. സ്ത്രീകളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു പറയുമ്പോൾ അവരുടെ ജീവിതത്തിനു വേണ്ടവിധത്തിൽ ഉപകരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു വിദ്യാഭ്യാസമല്ല ഇന്നു കിട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അവരുടെ ആരോഗ്യപരവും ഗാർഹികവുമായ അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കുപകരിക്കുത്തക്ക വിദ്യാഭ്യാസസമ്പ്രദായമാണ് അവർക്കു വേണ്ടതു്. ആരോഗ്യവും ആയുസ്സും നിലനിറുത്തുന്നതിലേക്കു സ്ത്രീകൾ പാചകകല അഭ്യസിച്ചിരിക്കേണ്ടതുണ്ട്. നിസ്സാരമെന്നു തള്ളിക്കളഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു

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[Sri. K. Davaki Undarjanam.]

വലിയ കാര്യമാണിത്. സർക്കലാശാലയിൽ ഈവകുപ്പുക്രടി ഉൾപ്പെട്ടത്തേണ്ടതാണ്. കുറച്ചുമുൻപു വിമൻസുകാളേജിൽ ഇതിന് ഒരു പ്രായോഗികപരിശീലനക്ലാസ്സ് ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയിരുന്നതായി കേട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. അന്നത്തെ വിദ്യാർത്ഥിനികളുടെ സഹകരണക്കുറവുകൊണ്ട് അതു നിറുത്തിയതായിട്ടറിയുന്നു. എന്നാൽ ഇന്നവർ പശ്ചാത്താപിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടായിരിക്കണം. അപൂർവം ചിലക്ക് നിസ്സാരമെന്നോ ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നോ തോന്നിയാലും ശാസ്ത്രീയമായ പഠിപ്പു ഏവക്കും വേണ്ടതാണ്. ഒരു സ്ത്രീയുടെ ഗാർഹികമായ ജീവിതത്തെ സാരമായ സ്പർശിക്കുന്ന ഒരു സംഗതിയാണിത് പൊതുമുതലിന്റെ ഇരുപതു ശതമാനം വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനായി ചിലവാക്കുന്ന ഒരു പരിഷ്കൃതരാജ്യത്തു് അവിടത്തെ സ്ത്രീകളുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസസമ്പ്രദായം അവരുടെ ജീവിതത്തിന് ഏറ്റവും ഉപകരിക്കത്തക്കനിലയിലായിരിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.

പൊതുജനാരോഗ്യം സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഗവണ്മെൻറു ക്രൂതൽ ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചു കാണുന്നതിൽ സന്തോഷിക്കുന്നു. സ്ത്രീകൾക്കും കുഞ്ഞുങ്ങൾക്കും ഉള്ള ആശുപത്രിയിൽ ഇരുനൂറുകട്ടിലും മറ്റു് ഉപകരണങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനായി നിശ്ചയിച്ചതിൽ എനിക്കു ക്രമത്തിലധികം ചാരിതാർത്ഥ്യമുണ്ട്.

ഗതാഗതം സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഏറെറടുക്കാൻ പോകുന്ന പുതിയ ഏർപ്പാടുകൾമൂലം ആക്ഷം ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടും വിഷമവും ഉണ്ടാകുകയില്ലെന്നു ദിവാൻജി അവർകൾ ഉറപ്പുപറയുന്നുണ്ട്. ഈ പുതിയ പദ്ധതിക്കു പരിപൂർണ്ണ വിജയം ആശിക്കുന്നു.

MR. M. RAMAIAH PILLAI: In reviewing the financial condition of the State, we would find, if you take the year 1080 as the basis, that the income and expenditure stood as at Rs. 1 crore. Within 25 years, in 1104, both the income and expenditure had gone up by 140 per cent. *i. e.*, 2 crores and 40 lakhs. Today the Financial Secretary is comparing the revenue with that of 1104, the peak period of economic prosperity.

Sir, in 1105 the world-wide economic depression set in with the prices of agricultural products toppling down by about 50 to 60 per cent. So much so that we reached almost the price levels of 1080. When we were going down the hill from 1105, our eye was not on the 1080 land-mark, but on the land-mark of 1104. Secretary after Secretary in charge of finance was trying his level best to make his budget square with that of 1104. Instead of trying to bring down the expenditure to the level of the expenditure in 1080 *i. e.* at one crore, we were pretending till now for the last nearly seven years that we must spend at least Rs. 2½ crores and we have spent also. How? Is the next

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question, and what is the amount which we could have saved if we had not spent. At the one crore level it will not be not less than Rs. 10 crores.

These ten crores of rupees have been spent by the Government for the people not from the day-to-day economic resources of the people but from the savings hoarded in gold between 1080 and 1104. In so far as the agriculturist is concerned with the economic expenditure of not less than Rs. 10 crores at least after the economic depression, all the capital resources of people have dried up.

(At this stage the President left the Chair and the Deputy President occupied it.)

At the present moment therefore, Sir, not only is the agriculturist completely ruined, but no commercial banking or industrial enterprise can be carried on with Travancore capital, because there is none in the country.

Even though the agriculturist might be relieved of his past debts to some extent by the conciliation committees there is no salvation and future before him. There is no capitalist in Travancore who can afford to advance any money to the agriculturist, instead he can find a cheap investment by purchasing in auction sales when the Government are pleased to sell at phenominally small rates. When the price of land appreciates, the capitalist can always secure a handsome return on his investment besides a good dividend. That trick is known to the capitalist. Sir, there is no justification for the pride indulged in by the Financial Secretary that the realisalion of the land revenue was very brisk. The Government were just slaying the goose that lays the golden eggs by these land revenue auctions. When the agriculturist goes under the small trader and the small commercial man all follow suit. It is not surprising, therefore, that all the commercial, industrial and banking enterprises in Travancore are passing out of the hands of the Travancoreans. No outsider in future will invest his money on agriculture in Travancore. And there we are. There is nothing in the Financial Secretary's speech to sing about. The production of a surplus budget does not connote the prosperity of the country or the people. As an accountant it may be satisfactory to him in adding up figures. The present Budget does not reflect the true condition of the people and the uttermost economic misery in which the people are groaning. The misery is nowhere felt more than in the two taluks of Chirayinkil and Nedumangad, especially Nedumangad. The salvation of the people can only come from the Government, and that by practising the severest economy possible. Every item of the Government expenditure must be cut down ruthlessly. Otherwise there is no hope and no salvation in the future.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: Sir, before I begin to review the budget, I deem it my duty to thank the Government of His Highness the Maharaja on behalf of the Latin Catholics of Travancore numbering

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[Mr. E. P. Varghese.]

3,60,217 the fourth community in point of population, for making such changes in the electoral system as to enable us to return elected representatives for the first time to the Travancore Legislature. While thanking the Government for this great boon may I be permitted to say that some modifications are necessary in the electoral system to safeguard our interests completely. Otherwise our members are likely to become tools in the hands of the major communities.

I do not propose to thank the Financial Secretary for doing his duty properly. He is paid for that. But I thank the Financial Secretary for the sacrificing spirit he has shown in giving up a salary carrying two and a half times his present pay. While our Financial Secretary is a sound financier in public finance, he is a poor financier in private affairs. I question the wisdom of giving up such a high salary as offered in Orissa in the evening of his life. I commend his spirit of sacrifice to his colleagues in the official block. But I am afraid I will be disappointed in my hopes of seeing the salaries of high paid officers reduced, before we on this side are allowed to occupy the official block.

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara* cum *Trivandrum*): When does the honourable member expect that event to take place?

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: With the co-operation of the honourable member and his colleagues, we may hope to achieve that within a short period. I think, Sir, it is a legitimate desire on our part that the administration of the present Dewan, which is rich in progressive schemes, will see that the chosen representatives of the people are entrusted with greater responsibilities in the administration.

Our Financial Secretary relies on prayer and the good fortune of others for the fulfilment of his hopes. But, Sir, prayer is sometimes unanswered and fortune is fickle. I warn the Financial Secretary against placing our finances at lowest minimum. In the year 1110 the Government account stood at Rs 117 lakhs; in 1111, it was Rs 108 lakhs; in 1112, the opening balance was Rs 83 lakhs, in 1113; it promises to be Rs. 74 lakhs; and at the close of 1113, it will come down to Rs. 40 lakhs. In the course of four years the Financial Secretary has reduced our balance to about one third of what it was. And this in spite of the loan of Rs 50 lakhs and the windfall of Rs 6·8 lakhs from the British Government on account of the duty on tobacco.

Sir, I do not think that the test of soundness of a budget depends upon its surplus or deficit character. Whether it is a surplus budget or deficit budget is a matter of arrangement. I am not oblivious of the fact that the Financial Secretary laid down certain canons in the first budget he presented about capital expenditure not being charged to revenue. We find by altering such capital expenditure as town planning scheme or Military buildings we can have a deficit budget. I say, therefore, that it is purely a matter of arrangement.

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The Financial Secretary hopes for an increase of Rs 9·85 lakhs from various sources, the chief of which are taxes on income Rs 1·71 lakhs, duty on tobacco Rs 1·75 lakhs, the rubber and sugar factories 80 thousand Rupees and so forth. I shall deal with the increase from taxes on income and duty on tobacco on another occasion. I will only state now that his hopes on those accounts are a bit high-placed. I will substantiate my statement when we come to the voting on demands.

The estimated income of Rs 80,000 from the Rubber Factory and the new Sugar Factory is not likely to be fulfilled. It was stated in 1111 when the Rubber Factory was floated that we should expect a return of half a lakh of rupees in that year only. But when the Financial Secretary came to us next year, he came forward with an apology for not realising that amount. Still he now expects the Rubber Factory to work at a profit in the hands of the lesees. Let us hope so. But I think that our hopes will not be fulfilled. The Sugar Factory too has been working at a loss and Government had to close it down. It is from such a concern that the Government expect to get a profit. Government have already provided a sum of Rs 1·58 lakhs to be written off as bad debts in regard to the Sugar Factory. We may infer what will be the result.

Another source of income which Government expect is from survey of minor circuits, Rs 10 lakhs under tharavila and 2 lakhs under arrears of assessment. I have to make a suggestion in respect of this. Please do not evict the poor tenants. Register the lands free to the occupants of these unregistered lands if they are found to possess no other land at all. Do not realise any tharavila or arrears of assessment from them if they are found to be landless. It will be a hard thing to evict poor people who have cleared the forests reclaimed kayal lands and improved the soil by asking them to pay heavy charges as tharavila and arrears of assessment. Of course, if the occupier is a rich man who can well afford to pay, you must by all means make him pay.

I find in the Budget that a sum of Rs 39·32 lakhs is allotted for non-productive works under "Capital Expenditure not charged to revenue". Sir, I think it is not a very sound financial policy to invest such large sums in non-productive works except in very affluent days. I do not agree with the Financial Secretary nor with some of my honourable colleagues when they say that the economic depression has lifted. Prices of agricultural produce, like copra and pepper are still low. Let us hope that the prices will rise, and then it will be right to forecast that the economic depression in lifting. The present forecast that the economic depression has lifted and so we can launch a policy of luxurious schemes is not correct. On the whole we find that Rs 98·48 lakhs have been provided in the Budget under "Capital Expenditure not charged to revenue". This together with the sum of Rs 246 88 lakhs charged to revenue make the total expenditure for the coming year aggregate to Rs 345·36 lakhs against an expected income of Rs 249·48 lakhs. The Financial Secretary has been drawing liberally for

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[Mr. E. P. Varghese,]

this over expense from our accumulated surplus. I am afraid he has been leading us by his sweet words, such as "our financial condition is sound and stable", 'the future is full of promise", to the verge of an abyss, the minimum working balance of Rs 49·13 lakhs admitted by him. Then he is asking us to pray and keep the balance on this verge. This is dangerous especially in times of economic depression, for we do not know how our finances will be. Our liabilities have been pointed out by some of the previous speakers and I do not want to speak at length about them. Still I have to point out that our total booked assets at the end of 1113 are expected to stand at Rs. 509·2 lakhs and those are balanced by such assets as electric supplies, broadcasting schemes, clay refining and porcelain factory, rubber factory and transport schemes which are not easily convertible into liquid cash.

I will next turn my attention to certain outstanding policies of the Government. The policy of Government regarding permission to erect churches and cemeteries has been a little tightened. Since I have now no time to refer to it at length I request that Government will be pleased to pursue a liberal policy in this direction.

As regards the public service, I say that it has been the burning question for several years. Very poorly represented communities like the Latin Catholics have been crying in and outside this Legislature for better representation. But Government have been very liberal in their promises but sparing in performance. Promise of equal opportunities and preference to poorly represented communities have been made on many an occasion on the floor of this House and outside. But these promises have been honoured more in the breach than in the observance. I will just point out one instance. I will take the General and Revenve Secretariat. There are about 224 hands drawing a salary of Rs 20 and over. The Latin Catholic Community which is fourth in point of population in the State, is represented there by a solitary individual and he is a typist. There was an acting clerk, I do not know whether he is now there. In the case of Tahsildars and Magistrates, again, there is only one each in both the categories. In the judiciary also there is only one Judge and one Munsiff from among the Latin Catholics. Everywhere we have a solitary specimen. The Government can see it clearly. It is a very distressing situation; there must be an end of it. Unless and until Government think it proper to make substantial concessions in favour of backward communities—I mean unrepresented communities—there will be serious discontent in the country. Communal bickerings arise out of inadequate representation in the public service. If that is solved I think, we will have an era of progress in which all communities will co-operate together for the progress of the State.

I do not wish to deal with the question of Transport and University Schemes within the few minutes available to me as I will have another opportunity to deal with them satisfactorily during the voting on demands for grants.

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I will add a word about the Public Works Department. My taluk of Shertallai in the constituency of Shertala-Ambalapuzha, is one of the most backward regions in point of communications. Shertallai has been notorious for its lack of communications and in the matter of transfer to that place, officers considered it as a sort of punishment.

Deputy President: Your time is up.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: Sir it is encouraging to know from the Financial Secretary's speech that the "financial condition of our State is absolutely stable and sound". According to him the future is full of promise and he concludes with the hope that without any additional taxation or any further loan all heavy capital and industrial schemes can be financed to the end of next year and that our revenue will increase in lakhs year after year.

The budget for the next year 1113, shows a surplus of Rs 2·6 lakhs and the Financial Secretary concedes that it is a small surplus. It does not matter whether the budget ends with a surplus or a deficit; all that matters is whether the financial condition is really stable and sound. Surplus or deficit may easily be shown by simple adjustment of figures on this side or that side. The Financial Secretary has told us that our revenue has reached this year a peak point of Rs. 251·54 lakhs with a surplus of Rs 11·12 lakhs. In matters of revenue we have to avoid stopping at any peak and must attempt to reach progressively higher peaks. We should never stop there nor should we descend to the other side of it.

The next year's budget before us shows an amount of revenue of Rs 249·48 lakhs, which is smaller than that of the current year. The surplus (Rs 2·60 lakhs) also is by far less than that of the out-going year. In this connection we have also to bear in mind the Government account balance which stood at Rs 83·4 lakhs at the beginning of 1112 and which was reduced to Rs 74·61 lakhs at its close is by the end of 1113 expected to go down further to Rs 40·32 lakhs. The Financial Secretary explains that it is due mainly to the new system adopted in relation to capital expenditure. We have also to bear in mind that the loan of Rs 50 lakhs incurred by our Government last year remains a debt. Taking all this into account we have to be careful in dealing with the finances of our State. In one part of his speech the Financial Secretary has very cleverly sounded a note of warning He says:

> "It is however, necessary that we should not relax our vigilance in regard to the control of expenditure or our efforts for securing economics as far as possible".

However the Financial Secretary believes in the energetic drive of the present Dewan whose career is "characterised by uniform good fortune and prosperity and whose touch converts everything into gold". I too agree with him in that observation. But I emphasise the words "*whose touch*", for, the touch must be *his*, by *his own hand* and not with any rod or spoon or through any other's hand.

(At this stage the President resumed the Chair.)

Can this direct touch be expected in regard to every detail of administration and at all times? That is the real situation. I feel very diffident about the big schemes which the Government propose to

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[Mr. Kottalil P. Abraham.]

launch very shortly. The Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme was started and for want of better supervision there was some mishap in regard to its foundations. It occasioned a big loss. I remember the laymen of the locality said when that foundation was laid that the site chosen for putting up machines was not a safe and proper place and that better site was near at hand. That was not heeded to by Government. They invited expert Engineers from Italy etc., to report on the question. I do not know what those experts reported. I know that the work went on at the site even after the visits of such experts. Finally actual, physical facts disclosed the mistake. When the cracks in the foundation were found developing, the Government of course determined to shift the site. A different site is chosen for constructing a building and housing the electrical machines. Instances such as the Sugar Factory at Thuckalai and the State Aided Bank to go show that Government Schemes fail for want of proper supervision. The loss incurred in that connection by Government comes to about Rs 4 lakhs.

PRESIDENT: Will the honourable member please repeat his last remark?

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: The loss incurred by Government from the Sugar Factory at Thuckalai amounts to Rs 1·58 lakhs, and that on account of the State Aided Bank is Rs 2·55 lakhs. Both these together make up roughly Rs 4 lakhs. However there is no question with regard to the good intention of the Government which means everything for the welfare of the people. From the Dewan President's address to this House in the joint session, we are all gratified to know that it is the intention of the Government to eradicate all existing ills, bribery, corruption, smuggling, evasion of payment of income tax, trespasses and encroachment. All these have to be expelled as early as possible. And the revenue of the Government must be increased. For that purpose one means suggested is the prevention of smuggling. Smuggling, of course, has to be stopped. But the means adopted for stopping that illicit trade, as at present seems, is not satisfactory. Two departments, the Excise and also a portion of the Police, are entrusted with the stopping of this illicit transaction in the northern frontiers. In the rural areas the subordinates of the two departments feel that at any cost they must show to the Government that they are active. They only want to make a noise of their activity at the place. They leave the real stopping of the smuggling to the smugglers themselves. The officers of the place find fault with the respectable people of the place and say that everything is done by them from behind the screen. At this stage I only want to say that it is not a true state of affairs. The trouble in this connection may be avoided by appointing a non-official committee to enquire into the matter or even to co-operative with the two departments in stopping illicit trade in the frontier. In the speech of the Financial Secretary he refers to the unscrupulous character and conduct of the

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people who are engaged in the illicit transaction. I emphasise that men with character and reliable conduct and morality should be appointed to supervise the conduct of the subordinates that are left in the frontier.

On the question of commercial transport the only difficulty is whether in reality the real intention of the Government can be accomplished. Government intends to do things for the comfort and convenience of the people. Whether that could be so achieved is a question to be considered. It is doubtful whether the Government with its big routine type of machinery will be able in practice to manage and conduct without loss the transport at so cheap a rate as that now in existence in the management by private agencies.

PRESIDENT: The member has one minute more.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: About the commercial transport I will have occasion to speak more later on.

In the matter of the Travancore University Scheme, the full nature of the scheme is not before the House and I think I shall have occasion to deal with it also later on.

Then about the question of broadcasting. Of course it is a nice thing if it is extended to the rural parts also. What the people in rural parts think about that is that they welcome the scheme if by that means they will also be able to broadcast from their stations their own grievances, their cries of starvation, their cries against persecution at the hands of creditors and Reserve Police etc., and all their agricultural screamings and bring them to the notice of the Government in no time.

MR. MACKAR PILLAI (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*): സർ, ഇവിടെ കാര്യമായി നടക്കുന്നതു് ഉദ്യോഗവഴക്കാണു്. ഇവിടെയുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ശമ്പളംവകയിൽ സമ്പാദിക്കുന്നതിനെക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ സമ്പാദ്യം കൃഷിക്കാക്കും കച്ചവടക്കാക്കും ഉണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ കഴിയും. ആ കാര്യത്തിൽ പ്രവേശിക്കാൻ ആക്കും യാതൊരു തടസ്ഥവുമില്ല. എന്നാൽ അതിലൊന്നും ആളുകൾ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കാതെ ഉദ്യോഗത്തിൽതന്നെ ഭ്രമിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു നടക്കുന്നതെന്തു്? ഞാൻ ആലോചിച്ചതിൽ ശമ്പളത്തെമാത്രം ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചല്ല; ഉത്തരവാദിത്വമില്ലാ എന്നുള്ളതിനാലും മറ്റു ചില കാര്യലാഭത്തെ കുറിയുമാണു് ആളുകൾക്കു ഉദ്യോഗത്തിൽ ഇത്ര വാസനയുണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നതെന്നു തോന്നുന്നു. ഉത്തരവാദിത്വമില്ലാത്ത ശമ്പളമാണു് അവർക്കു ലഭിക്കുന്നതു്. കൃഷിക്കാർക്കോ കച്ചവടക്കാർക്കോ വ്യവസായികൾക്കോ അതു സാദ്ധ്യമല്ല. അവർ ഉത്തരവാദബോധത്തോടുകൂടി അതു ചെയ്തില്ലെങ്കിൽ അവരുടെ കുടുംബം പോകും; അവർ നശിക്കും. എന്നാൽ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്കു് അങ്ങിനെയല്ല. അവർക്കു ഉത്തരവാദിത്വബോധം എന്നൊന്നില്ല.

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[Mr. Mackar Pillai.]

അതുകൊണ്ടു ദിവസം മുഴുവൻ എണ്ണിയാൽ മതി. അതിനുംപുറമേ എന്താണു പറയേണ്ടതു്? ഞാൻ കുച്ചവടപ്പീടികയിൽനിന്നും നേരേ വന്നവനാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ശരിയായ ഭാഷയിൽ പറയുവാനുള്ള സാമർത്ഥ്യം എനിക്കു കുറവാണു്. ഇവിടെ ജാതിനോക്കി ഉദ്യോഗം കൊടുക്കുന്നുമെന്നു ഞാനും പറയുന്നു. എങ്കിലും അതിലും ഒരു വലിയ ദോഷം കാണുന്നുണ്ടു്. എന്റെ ജാതിക്കാക്കു ഉദ്യോഗം കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുമ്പോൾ, അതിന്റെ ഫലമായി ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗം ഒരു മഹമ്മദീയനു ലഭിക്കുന്നുവെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുക; അയാൾക്കു മനുഷ്യത്വം ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അയാളുടെ അടുക്കൽ ഞാൻ എന്തെങ്കിലും ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടാൽ അതു ചെയ്യാതിരിക്കാൻ അയാൾക്കു സാധ്യമല്ല. ഇതല്ലയോ ജാതിനോക്കി ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു പറയുന്നവരുടെ ഉദ്ദേശമെന്നും എനിക്കു ബലമായ സംശയമില്ലാതില്ല. എന്നാൽ ജാതി നോക്കി ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ കൊടുത്തതിനു ശേഷം അയാൾക്കു നീതിന്യായബുദ്ധിയോടുകൂടി പ്രവർത്തി ചെയ്യാൻ വയ്യാതായി. അയാളിൽ വലിയ മതിപ്പും ഇല്ലാതായി. ഇതു സർവ്വസാധാരണമായി കാണുന്ന ഒരനുഭവമാണു്. ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻ, അവൻ ഏതുജാതിയിൽ പെട്ടവനാണോ ആ ജാതിക്കാരനോടു ഒരുവേള നീതിതന്നെ നടത്തിയാലും അതു് അനീതിയെന്നു വ്യാഖ്യാനിക്കപ്പെടുകയായി. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള അനുഭവങ്ങൾ ഇവിടെ ധാരാളമുണ്ടു്. അതാണു ജാതിനോക്കി ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ വലിയ ദോഷമുണ്ടെന്നു ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതു്.

MR. E. P. VARUGHESE: ഒരു ജാതിയിലുംപെടാത്ത ആളിനു് ജോലികൊടുക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമോ?

MR. MACKAR PILLAI: എല്ലാ ജാതിക്കാക്കും കൊടുക്കണം. പക്ഷേ അവർ അവരുടെ ജോലി ശരിയായും നീതിയായും ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നു നോക്കണം. അതിനു് ഉത്തരവാദിത്വഭരണംകൊണ്ടേ സാധിക്കുകയുള്ളു. ഈ ജാതീയബുദ്ധി ഇവിടെ ഉള്ളിടത്തോളംകാലം അതു് സാധ്യമാണെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. ഒരുദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻ ഏതു ജാതിയിൽപെട്ടവനായാലും അവൻ ന്യായം നടത്തുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നാണു ഗവണ്മെൻറു നോക്കേണ്ടതു്. അതുചെയ്യാൻ യാതൊരു ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടും ഇല്ല. സി. ഐ. ഡി. ക്കാരെ വച്ചുകൊണ്ടു യാതൊരു പ്രയോജനവുമില്ല. അവർ നീതിചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നു നോക്കാൻ വേറെ സി ഐ. ഡി.

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ക്കാരെ വയ്ക്കണം. അവരുടെ പ്രവൃത്തി അത്തരത്തിലുള്ളതാണ്. ഒരാൾ ഒരു കൊലപാതകംചെയ്താൽ ഇവർ അവിടെച്ചെന്ന് ആദ്യം കൊലപാതകിയെക്കാണും. കാര്യങ്ങൾ എല്ലാം അറിഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ട് കൊലപ്പെട്ടവന്റെ വീട്ടുകാരേയും അവരിൽപ്പെട്ടവരേയും മറ്റു സ്വാധീനബലമുള്ളവരേയും പോയി കാണും. എവിടെയാണു ഗ്രണം അതനുസരിച്ചേ അവരും ചെയ്യുകയുള്ളൂ. എന്നാൽ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ അനീതികർമ്മം കണ്ടുപിടിക്കാൻ യാതൊരു വിഷമവുമില്ല. അയാൾ ഒരു ജഡ്ജിയാണെങ്കിൽ അയാളുടെ കോടതിയിൽ നടക്കുന്ന കേസുകളുടെ തീരുമാനങ്ങളെ ആദ്യവസാനം വായിച്ചുനോക്കിയാൽ, അയാൾ ഒരു മദ്ധ്യസ്ഥക്കാരനാണോ അല്ലയോ എന്നു പ്രത്യക്ഷത്തിൽ കാണാൻ കഴിയും. ആ പരിശോധനയിൽ നീതി നടത്തുന്നില്ലെന്നു സംശയംതോന്നുന്ന ആളുകളുടെ നടപടികൾ സൂക്ഷിച്ചു മനസ്സിലാക്കുകയും കുറക്കാക്കുതക്കതായ ശിക്ഷ കൊടുക്കുകയുംചെയ്താൽ പിന്നെ ഉദ്യോഗത്തിനിടെ ഇതു വഴക്കുണ്ടാകുകയില്ല. ഇതിനുമുൻപു ഇവിടെയിരുന്ന ദിവാൻജി പറഞ്ഞു "കള്ളത്തരം ഞാൻ ക്ഷമിക്കുകയില്ല, മണ്ടത്തരം ക്ഷമിക്കാം." പക്ഷേ, അദ്ദേഹം മണ്ടത്തരംചെയ്ത ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ ശിക്ഷിച്ചു. എന്നാൽ കള്ളത്തരംചെയ്തവരെ തൊട്ടതേയില്ല. അങ്ങ് അമാന്തം കാണിക്കുന്നവരെ ശിക്ഷിക്കുമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞു. ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ അമാന്തത്തെ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കാൻ യാതൊരു വിഷമവുമില്ല. അങ്ങയ്ക്ക് അതിനുള്ള ബുദ്ധിയുണ്ട്, ശക്തിയുണ്ട്. ഓരോ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടേയും നടപടികൾ സൂക്ഷിച്ചാൽമതി. അതു കണ്ടുപിടിച്ച് മാതൃകാപരമായി ഒന്നോ രണ്ടോ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ ശിക്ഷിച്ചാൽ പിന്നെ അമാന്തമുണ്ടാകുകയില്ല. ജാതിനോക്കിയുള്ള ഒരു ജഡ്ജിമെന്റും ഉണ്ടാകുകയില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ ഇവിടെ ഒരു മജിസ്ട്രേട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുക. അയാളുടെ ജാതി ഏതാണെന്നു നോക്കി ആ ജാതിയിലുള്ളതോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ അയാളുടെ സംബന്ധത്തിൽപെട്ടതോ ആയ ഒരു വക്കീലിനായിരിക്കും മിക്കവാറും കേസുകളുടെ വക്കാലത്തുകൾ ആളുകൾ കൊടുക്കുന്നതു്. ഇതിന്റെ അർത്ഥമെന്താണു്? വർഗ്ഗീയമായ ഒരു ചായ്വ് ആ മജിസ്ട്രേട്ട് കാണിക്കുമെന്നല്ലേ? എനിക്ക് എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു കാര്യമുണ്ടായാൽ എന്റെ ജാതിക്കാരിൽനിന്നുള്ള ആനുകൂല്യം എനിക്കു ലഭിക്കുമെന്നുള്ള വിശ്വാസം പരക്കെ വന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ ജാതിനോക്കി കൊടുക്കേണ്ട എന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല. കൊടുക്കണമെന്നുതന്നെ ഞാനും പറയുന്നു. പക്ഷേ, മുൻപു പറഞ്ഞ

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[Mr. Mackar Pillai-]

കാര്യത്തിൽ അങ്ങു പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണം. അതു ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരുന്നാൽ ജാതിനോക്കി ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ യാതൊരു ആക്ഷേപവുമില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ ഉള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളങ്ങൾ ഒന്നും അധികമല്ല. എന്നാൽ കീഴ്ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളം തീരെ പോരാ. അവക്കു പതിനഞ്ചുരൂപായെങ്കിലും ശമ്പളംവയ്ക്കണം. അവരിൽനിന്നാണു് സാധാരണജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഉപദ്രവം അധികം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതു്. അവരുടെ കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി മേലുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരോടു പറഞ്ഞാൽ യാതൊരു രക്ഷയും ഇല്ല. ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു മുൻസിഫിന്റേയോ ഒരു ജഡ്ജിയുടേയൊ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ മറേറതെങ്കിലും ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടേയൊ വീട്ടിൽ അങ്ങു് ഒന്നു വേഷംമാറിയിട്ടു പരിശോധിച്ചുനോക്കിയാൽമതി. അപ്പോൾ എല്ലാം അറിയാം. അല്ലാതെ ഒരുവിധത്തിലും ഇതിനു പരിഹാരംനേടാൻ സാധ്യമല്ല. ഇവിടെ വലിയ ശമ്പളങ്ങൾ വാങ്ങുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ഒരു ജോലിയെപ്പറ്റി ഞാൻ പറയാം. ഞങ്ങളുടെ ജീവനും ഞങ്ങളുടെ സ്വത്തുക്കളുടെ അധികാരസ്ഥന്മാരും ആയ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ക്രാസ്‌വേർഡ കാമ്പിറ്റിഷനിലാണു് കൂടുതൽ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുന്നതു്. അതിനു സമ്മാനംവാങ്ങുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുമുണ്ടു്. ചതുരംഗം കളിച്ചു മുടിഞ്ഞ ജനങ്ങൾ ധാരാളമുണ്ടു്. എന്നാൽ അതുകൊണ്ടു മറ്റാളുകൾക്കു ദോഷമൊന്നുമില്ല. ക്രാസ്‌വേർഡിൽ മത്സരിക്കുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെക്കൊണ്ടുള്ള ദോഷം ജനങ്ങൾക്കാണു്. ഇവക്കു് ഊണിലും ഉറക്കത്തിലും ഈ ക്രാസ്‌വേർഡ് കാമ്പിറ്റിഷനെപ്പറ്റിയാണു് ചിന്ത.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I trust the Honourable Member will furnish the names of all these devotees of crossword competition to the authorities.

MR. MACKAR PILLAI: അവിടുന്നു ചോദിച്ചതുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ അതു തരാം. മെമ്പറന്മാർ ആരെങ്കിലും ചോദിച്ചാൽ ഞാൻ കൊടുക്കുകയില്ല; അങ്ങു് ഒരു അധികാരമുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനായതുകൊണ്ടു് ചോദിച്ചാൽ തരാം.

ഇനി എനിക്കു തീരുവയെപ്പറ്റിയാണു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്. വടക്കൻതിരുവിതാംകൂർകാരാണു കൂടുതൽ തീരുവ കൊടുക്കുന്നതു്. അവരിൽ പലരും കള്ളന്മാരാണെന്നുള്ള ഒരു സൂചന ബഡ്ജറ്റുപ്രസംഗത്തിൽ കാണുകയുണ്ടായി. പുകയില വ്യാജവ്യാപാരത്തിൽ അവർ കൂട്ടുനിൽക്കുന്നു എന്നു ഫൈനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി പറയുന്നു. പുകയിലയുടെ

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മാത്രമല്ല അവിടെ കള്ളവ്യാപാരം ഉള്ളതു്. വേറെ പലതുണ്ടും ഉണ്ടു്. ഇവിടത്തെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ പെട്ടിട്ടില്ലന്നേയുള്ളു. കുരുമുളകു്, ഉപ്പു മുതലായവയും കള്ളമായി വിൽക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ആലപ്പുഴ കുരുമുളകിന്റെ കയറ്റുമതി കുറവാണെന്നു കേട്ടു. അതിന്റെ കാരണം അതു വേറെവഴിക്കു പോയിട്ടുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടാണു്. കൊച്ചിയിൽനിന്നു സാമാനങ്ങൾ ഇങ്ങോട്ടുപോരുമ്പോഴും ഇവിടെനിന്നു സാമാനങ്ങൾ കൊച്ചിയിലേക്കു പോകുമ്പോഴും എക്സൈസുകാരും ഈ കള്ളക്കച്ചവടക്കാരുംതമ്മിൽ ഒന്നടുക്കുന്നു. അവർതമ്മിൽ ഒരു ക്ലോസ്കുടുംബബന്ധമാണുള്ളതു്. അവരെ എതുത്തു ശരിയായ വില്പന നടത്തുവാൻ മറ്റുള്ളക്കാക്കു സാധ്യമല്ലാതെയാണു വന്നിരിക്കുന്നതു്. മൂവാറ്റുപുഴ കുരുമുളകിന്റെ വില ആലപ്പുഴയുള്ള കുരുമുളകിന്റെ വിലയേക്കാളും ഏതു സമയത്തും നാലോ അഞ്ചോ രൂപ കൂടുതലായിരിക്കും. കൊച്ചിയിൽ കുരുമുളകിനു നൂറു രൂപ വിലയുള്ളപ്പോൾ ആലപ്പുഴെ ൻ.ം രൂപയാണു വില. ആ കണക്കിനു ആലപ്പുഴെ നൂറു രൂപ വിലയുള്ളപ്പോൾ കൊച്ചിയിൽ നൂറിപ്പത്തുരൂപയാണു വിലവേണ്ടതു്. ന്യായത്തിനു നൂറിപതിമൂന്നരൂപ വിലവരണം. ഈ വ്യത്യാസംവന്നതു വ്യാജവില്പനയിൽനിന്നാണെന്നുള്ളതുമനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ വിഷമമില്ലല്ലോ. അതുപോലെതന്നെയാണു് ഉപ്പിനും കല്ലുപ്പു്, മണ്ണുപ്പു് എന്നേ ഞങ്ങൾ പറയുകയുള്ളു, ബാംബേയ്സ്റ്റു് നാടൻഉപ്പു് എന്നുപറഞ്ഞാൽ എന്താണെന്നു ഞങ്ങൾക്കു അറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ. കല്ലുപ്പിൽ കല്ലു് കാണുകയേയില്ല. കല്ലുപോലെയിരിക്കുന്ന ഉപ്പു് എന്നേയുള്ളു. മണ്ണുപ്പു് വാസ്തവത്തിൽ മണ്ണുള്ളതുതന്നെയാണു്. മുമ്പം ചവുക്കയിൽനിന്നാണു് ഞങ്ങൾ ഉപ്പുവാങ്ങിക്കുന്നതു് ആലുവായിൽ കല്ലുപ്പിനു എട്ടുരൂപാ കൊടുക്കണം. മണ്ണുപ്പിനു നാലേമുക്കാൽരൂപ കൊടുത്താൽമതി. അതിനടുത്താണു കൊച്ചി. കൊച്ചിയിൽ കല്ലുപ്പു ധാരാളം കിട്ടും. ചാക്കിനു അഞ്ചുരൂപയെ വിലയുള്ളു. സൂത്രത്തിൽ ഇങ്ങോട്ടു കടത്തിയാൽമതി. എക്സൈസുകാക്കു വല്ലതും കൊടുത്താൽ അതു എളുപ്പം സാധിക്കാവുന്ന ഒരു കാര്യവുമാണു്. അങ്ങിനെ ധാരാളം ഉപ്പു് ഇങ്ങോട്ടു കടക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ആലുവായിൽ കല്ലുപ്പിനു വലിയ പ്രിയമുണ്ടു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു കച്ചവടക്കാക്കു നല്ല ലാഭവും കിട്ടും. കൊച്ചിയും തിരുവിതാംകൂറും അടുത്തടുത്തു കിടക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു കൊച്ചിയിൽ ചെലവാകുന്ന നല്ല സാധനങ്ങൾ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലും ചെലവാകും. ഒരു കാര്യം ഞാൻ തീർത്തുപറയാം. ഈ എക്സൈസുകാരില്ലെങ്കിൽ അവിടെ ഈ കുഴപ്പം ഉണ്ടാകുകയില്ല. വ്യാജവ്യാപാരം നിൽക്കണമെങ്കിൽ പൊതുജനങ്ങളു

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[Mr. Mackar Pillai.]

ടെയും കച്ചവടക്കാരുടെയും സഹകരണം ഉണ്ടായാൽ മാത്രംമതി. സ്വതേതന്നെ ഞങ്ങളുടെ നാട്ടുകാർ വ്യാജക്കച്ചവടം ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു താൽപര്യം ഉള്ളവരല്ല. അവർ എല്ലാവരും ലൈസൻസുകാരാണ്. ഓരോ ലൈസൻസുകാരനും മാസം ഇത്ര രൂപ വീതം എക്സൈസുകാർക്കു കൊടുക്കണമെന്ന വ്യവസ്ഥയുണ്ട്. ഇതു തടയുന്നതിനുള്ള മാർഗ്ഗം ഉണ്ടാകേണ്ടതു അത്യാവശ്യമായ ഒരു കാര്യമാണ്. അതുണ്ടായാൽ അന്നു പുകയില വ്യാജവ്യാപാരം നില്ക്കും. അതിനാൽ അതിലേക്കു എക്സൈസുകാരെ കൂടുതലായി നിയമിക്കേണ്ടയാവശ്യമില്ല. റിസർവുകാരെ അയച്ചു ആരെയും തല്ലിക്കയും വേണ്ട.

ബാംബേയിലെ ടെയിഡ് ഏജൻറു മൂന്നോ നാലോ ലക്ഷം രൂപ നഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടുത്തിയതായി പറയുന്നു. അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഇനിയൊരു സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞുകൊള്ളാം.

ഒരു സർവകലാശാലാകായ്യം ഇവിടെ പറയുന്നതു കേട്ടു. ഇപ്പോൾതന്നെ പഠിച്ചു ആളുകളുടെ ഉപദ്രവങ്ങൾകൊണ്ടു കിടക്കപ്പൊറുതിയില്ല. എൻറെ അടുക്കൽതന്നെ ദിവസംപ്രതി പത്തോ പന്ത്രണ്ടോ ആളുകൾ ഉപദ്രവിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്.

PRESIDENT: The honourable member has only 2 minutes more.

MR. MACKAR PILLAI: തനിക്കെന്തു ജോലി ചെയ്യാം എന്നു ചോദിച്ചാൽ എന്തുജോലിവേണമെങ്കിലും ചെയ്യാം എന്നത്തരം പറയും. കക്കുവണ്ടി തല്ലാമോ എന്നുചോദിച്ചാൽ എനിക്കറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ എന്നുപറയും. കല്ലു ചുമക്കാമോ എന്നുചോദിച്ചാൽ അതും പാടില്ല. ദേഹം അനങ്ങിയുള്ള പണി ഒന്നും പാടില്ല; ഒരു മേശയും ഒരു കസേരയും ഒരു ഫൌണ്ടൻപേനയും കൊടുത്താൽ എന്തെങ്കിലും പണിയും. കൃഷിക്കാരും കച്ചവടക്കാരുമായ പലരും കുട്ടികളെ പഠിപ്പിച്ചു ഒന്നിനും കൊള്ളരുതാത്തവരാക്കി. അവർ ജോലിക്കായി അലഞ്ഞുതിരിയുകയായി. പിന്നെ ഒരുഗുണം ഉണ്ട്. ചായ കുടിക്കാനും ബീടിവലിക്കാനും ഉള്ള കാശു ശമ്പളം കൊടുത്താൽമതി.

ഇനി ട്രാൻസുപോർട്ടിനെപ്പറ്റി പറയാം. ഇപ്പോൾ കൃഷിയും വ്യവസായവും കച്ചവടവും നടത്തുന്ന പലയാളുകളും നന്നാകുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ട്രാൻസ്പോർട്ടേഷ്ടുകൾമൂലം പലയാളുകളും നശിച്ചാണു വരുന്നതു. ഇപ്പോൾ ഇതു ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഏറ്റെടുക്കാൻ വിചാരിക്കു

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ന്നതിൽ എനിക്കുള്ള അഭിപ്രായം ഞാൻ പറയാം. ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഏറെറടുത്തിരിക്കുന്ന പദ്ധതികളെല്ലാം അപജയത്തിലാണു കലാശിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അതുപോലെ ഇതും ആകാതിരുന്നാൽ കൊള്ളാം. ട്രാൻസ് പോർട്ടു ഏറ്റെടുത്തു വ്യക്തിപരമായി ഓരോരുത്തരും എട്ടുനോക്കി അതു വിജയിക്കുന്നു എന്നു കാണുന്നപക്ഷം ഗവണ്മെൻറു അതേറെറടുക്കേണ്ടയാവശ്യം ഉണ്ടെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. ഒരു രാജ്യത്തിൻെറ വരവും ചെലവും അനുസരിച്ചാണു് ഏതൊരു രാജ്യത്തിൻെറയും ജയാപജയങ്ങൾ കണക്കാക്കുന്നതു്. ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ വരവുകൊണ്ടു ഇവിടത്തെ ചെലവു വഹിക്കുവാനുള്ള പദ്ധതികൾവേണം ഗവണ്മെൻറു നടപ്പിൽവരുത്തുവാൻ.

PRESIDENT: The honourable member is exceeding his time.

MR. MACKAR PILLAI: ഇവിടെയുള്ള സാധനങ്ങൾ ഇവിടത്തെതന്നെ ചെലവാകുന്നതിലേയ്ക്കു് അന്യം സാധനങ്ങൾക്കു് ഇറക്കുമതിച്ചുങ്കം കൂട്ടണമെന്നാണു ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതു്. ജർമ്മനിയിലും മറ്റും ആ നയമാണു സ്വീകരിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അവിടെ സംസ്കൃതസാധങ്ങൾക്കു നൂറിനു നൂറും ചിലപ്പോൾ അഞ്ഞൂറും രൂപ മുതൽ മുതുത്തുന്നു എന്നു എനിക്കറിയാം. അവക്കു് അസംസ്കൃതസാധനങ്ങളേ ആവശ്യമുള്ളു. അതുതന്നെ കോട്ടാ സിസ്റ്റം ഏർപ്പെടുത്തി നിയന്ത്രിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. അത്തരം സാധനങ്ങൾക്കു് ഒന്നോ അരയോ ടണ്ണിനുമാത്രമേ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ലൈസൻസ് കൊടുക്കുകയുള്ളു. ഗവണ്മെൻറു എന്തു വ്യവസായം നടത്തിയാലും നമ്മുടെ പണം വെളിയിൽ പോകാതെ സൂക്ഷിക്കുകയാണു വേണ്ടതു്.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Sir.....

PRESIDENT: Before the Honourable Member begins to speak, I wish to make a statement. The business of the House commenced at 10 O'clock. The actual time for interpellations took about 15 to 17 minutes. Subject to observations which may fall from the honourable members we might continue until about 2-5 P. M. or 2-10 P. M. and then rise for the day. I trust this will meet the wishes of the Assembly.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, I have great pleasure to associate myself with my friends in congratulating the Financial Secretary on presenting a clear and able statement of our financial operations during the previous year and an anticipated estimate for the next year. I need hardly say, Sir, that the budget bears ample evidence as to the very satisfactory, stable and sound financial position and also as to the wise administration of its affairs. We have a surplus budget which at the same time reveals a vast programme of capital expenditure on works of public utility. Besides providing for the completion of the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme and for the contribution to the fourth stage of

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[Mr. K. C. Karunakaran,]

the Cochin Harbour, the capital schemes provided for the drainage works at Trivandrum and for the supply of good water in the towns of Alleppey, Shencotta and Nagercoil, and also for the establishment of a trunk telephone service, a ceramic factory and commercial transport.

Sir, I fully trust that I am right in taking these budget proposals for the next year as a harbinger of a new era of allround economic prosperity. Sir, it is unfortunate that in our country, we have been so long, especially during the last few years, pre-occupied with constitutional issues, while so many larger and more urgent problems have been clamouring for solution. In the field of education, we have not yet been able to chalk out a satisfactory and successful programme so as to enable us to adjust between the claims of the past and the call of the future.

In the sphere of economic activities, this need for adjustment is even greater. Our country is poor; our standard of living is low and our Ryot lives a life that is neither a credit to the administration nor a satisfaction to himself. The problem of industrial development has also become more acute. Taking the first problem of education, I beg to mention, Sir, that the problem of unemployment is one of great dimentions all the world over. But in our country, Sir, there is the special problem of unemployment among the educated classes. It is the primary, nay, the first duty of any wise administration to solve this important and urgent problem. Sir, to do this a thorough and complete overhauling of our educational system is necessary; and the future system of education must be suitable to our tradition, life and culture and also to the peculiar and growing needs of our country, and I maintain that as long as we are influenced or guided or controlled by outside agencies that is not possible.....I therefore welcome the proposal of the Government for the establishment of a separate university for Travancore. I fully agree with the remarks which my friend Mr. Janardana Pillai made the other day with regard to the urgent needs of agriculture and our vast agricultural population of the State. I do not want to repeat his arguments, but I do want to emphasize this fact; that is, in the prosperity of agriculture and the agriculturist lies the prosperity of the other economic activities of the State. That being so, I wish to make a passing reference to our cocoanut industry. It is now admitted even by the Government of India that our cocoanut industry needs protection. In 1935, the sub-committee of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research recommended unanimously to the Government of India for a suitable *ad valorem* duty subject to a minimum specific duty of Rs. 70 per ton of imported copra. On an examination of the probable effects of this duty on our cocoanut cultivators and the cocoanut industry, it was found that it will only just cover the cost of cultivation. In order to give a stimulus to the cultivator and a stimulus to the cocoanut industry, there must have a minimum specific duty of Rs. 100 on every ton of imported copra and I appeal to the Government to approach the Government of India in time and see that this specific import duty of Rs. 100 is obtained.

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Sir, for the last so many years, the Government have been accused in and outside the legislature for not laying down any definite policy with regard to the economic and industrial development of the State. Today I am happy to see that one of the first acts of the new administration was to tackle this very important problem; and I am happier to note that they have done so successfully. Government have realised at last that there are certain economic activities, which they should merely initiate and then hand over to private bodies, while there are certain others which, in the ultimate interests of the public, Government should control and take up for management by themselves.

In accordance with this policy, Government have handed over the Rubber and the Sugar Factories to private bodies, and they have now decided to take over the transport industry of the State.

During the General discussion on Saturday, the leader of the opposition criticised the Government on what he called the inconsistency in their industrial policy. I am sorry, Sir, that the honourable member did not care to make any attempt to understand the essential difference between the two different kinds of industrial undertakings.

Transport occupies the first and foremost place in what are called public utility activities in every civilised country. Sir, I do not believe in the violent and dogmatic communism of Lenin or in the fascism of Mussolloni or even in the British Imperialism. I do not believe that these can play any important, any prominent and permanent part in the future economic structure of any forward country. But I do believe and maintain, Sir, that in the determination of its economic policy, every economic Unit has to approximate itself to a State of modified socialism. That being so, the policy of nationalisation should begin with the public utility activities and that is what our Government propose to do with regard to the transport industry in Travancore.

Sir, being in the field of practical business, I cannot but mention here the argument advanced by a Madras Daily in regard to compensation to the existing bus-owners for what has been called the "good-will" of the business. Sir, it is admitted that at present these bus owners are incurring huge losses year after year. Knowing that, it is really amusing to read this argument about compensation for their 'good-will.' Sir there are certain factors which determine the good-will of a business. Certain factors are necessary to constitute or create what is called 'good-will.' Without detailing them here, I can, without hesitation, say that a continuously losing concern with the prospect of future losses, cannot have any good-will. It can only create 'bad-will,' if I am allowed to use that expression.

Sir, seven years ago, the Banking Enquiry Committee tackled this very important problem and recommended to Government that, since this industry was getting from bad to worse, some sort of Government control was very necessary. Later, in 1932, the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee more or less repeated the same recommendation and definitely advocated State interference in the matter. We, therefore, see, Sir, that the materials were there already; only they had to wait for the master-mind.

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[Mr. K. C. Karunakaran.]

Before I finish this part of my speech, I want to point out to Government the urgent necessity of extending this policy to water transport also. At present, the boat service is being run in a suicidal manner on account of unregulated competition, which is worse than capitalistic monopoly.

MR. V. K. VELAYUDHAN: Is the Member willing to allow the extention of this policy to the coir industry also?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN: I am sorry my friend has not followed the distinction I have made between public utility activities and ordinary commercial enterprises.

I would request Government to find out ways and means to take over water traffic in the main waterways of the State.

I fully agree with my leader when, on Saturday, on the floor of this House, he pleaded for the creation of a separate department of commerce for the State. He pointed out to you, Sir, that our internal and external trade is growing by leaps and bounds and that it occupied a more important place in our economic structure today than agriculture.

Today, Sir, as the House knows, a kind of narrow nationalism is being developed by various countries to keep up their economic interests. Our goods, mats and matting for instance, have been shut out by eight countries of the world to-day. Therefore, it is very necessary that a separate department of commerce should be established in Travancore in order to study these commercial operations in the various parts of the world.

At present this function is being discharged by the Excise Department. Till about a few years ago, the Excise Commissioner had more time at his disposal to study this problem. To-day, he is saddled with increased work under Salt, Abkari, Customs and other unrelated subjects, so that his burden is more than his shoulders could bear. It is physically impossible for one man to discharge all these duties properly, however efficient, able and clever he may be. I would, therefore, emphasise again the urgent need for a separate department of commerce.

My friend Mr. Janardana Pillai asked an interpellation on Saturday on the cost of living statistics in the country; and the Chief Secretary answered that the Chamber of Commerce was not prepared to render financial aid to an institution for collecting the information. Sir, you have heard the cry for the standardisation of wages, for the introduction of minimum wages. That is the cry from the labour side. Sir, we are prepared to go into the question, but we must have data without which we cannot tackle even the elementary side of the problem. I therefore request the Government to do something in this direction at an early date.

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MR. E. E. PANDARATHIL (*Jenmis, South*): Sir, I have to congratulate the Financial Secretary for two reasons, firstly for the unexpected windfall, the increase of revenue he got beyond his expectations as a result of his prayers, and secondly for still following, in spite of such increase of revenue, the policy of wisdom and caution which is always praiseworthy on the part of a Financial Secretary.

Sir, if I remember right, the Financial Secretary's Budget for last year was characterised as a 'carrying-on' Budget. This year, I should think that the Budget he has now placed before us may be called a creative Budget if I may invent that phrase. As has already been mentioned by some honourable members, the criterion to judge the soundness of a Budget is not to see whether it is a surplus Budget or a deficit Budget but to see whether the apportionment of the available funds has been made with due regard to the condition of the people and their needs in the proper order of urgency. Judged by that standard, I think the Financial Secretary wins by a long head in the Budget that he has now placed before us.

Sir, without wasting time on the enunciation of modern financial principles, or the general principles of public finance, I shall make a few observations on the Budget proper.

There has been an increase of land revenue. I hope it is not due to the squeezing of the people till the tips squeak, but due to the lifting of the economic depression, the revival of trade, the recovery of markets. I take it that with the lifting of the depression, the prosperity and wealth of the people have improved and they are now paying the taxes ungrudgingly.

PRESIDENT: It is not my intention at all to stifle discussion. But, I would invite the attention of the honourable members to the fact that, if they want to hear the Financial Secretary on his view points about the Budget—as I am sure they would like to do—they should be as brief as possible, since I have to call two more members to speak before I call the Financial Secretary.

MR. E. E. PANDARATHIL: Sir, I would like to know whether the increase under Land Revenue is due to the new cases of *karampathippu* sent out from the Jenmikarom Settlement. It gives some hope to the jenmies to find that the *Jenmikkaram* settlement work is nearing completion and that therefore it is that provision has been made, in the Budget for 1113, only for reduced staff for the purpose. Sir, I have my own misgivings with regard to the proposed reduction of this staff. Of course, it is with the hope that the work could be finished during the course of the next year even with the reduced staff that the Government propose to effect the reduction. But, consistent with the undertakings that the Government have given when the Regulation was passed, I hope they would, if they find that the work could not be finished with the reduced staff, increase it, add to it, in time when it is found necessary. I am sure the Land Revenue Commissioner will agree with me when I say that the *jenmikkaram* settlement work, its magnitude, has far exceeded the expectation, both on account of the

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[Mr. E. E. Pandarathil.]

very large number of Survey Numbers and on account of their being very widely scattered throughout the State, and also on account of the intricacies of this longstanding system. I take it the work of *jenmikaram* settlement will be three or four fold in the coming year on account of the amount to be paid, how it should be paid and in how many instalments, and such other matters. Along with these, there is the current work also in the matter of the collection of arrears. I hope that, as the Land Revenue Commissioner has been able, on account of the lifting of the economic depression, to collect more of revenue, the jenmies also would be able, for the same reason to realize more of their arrears dues. The Financial Secretary as has been shown by recent events, has seldom failed in his expectations; and I therefore hope that the *jenmikkaram* settlement work will be finished in the coming year and regular collection work will be started immediately so that the Jenmi can come out of that state of affairs which the then Jenmi member described, at the time of the passing of the Regulation, as the 'prelude to the deluge.'

Sir, in the matter of submitting ourselves to the Jenmi Kudiyan Regulation may I submit to you that we have been surrendering our hereditary and indefeasible rights in the spirit of the Japanese Zamurai and that in the hope that the State may be served by our sacrifice. We have allowed the Government to enter into the relations between two private parties in order that the State might in the long run be benefited and the condition of the people improved. Sir, considered in the very same spirit I say that the commercial transport that you have undertaken comes only as a minor matter. That is wherever there is a large growing private interest in public utilities and it is the modern policy the world over for Governments to take over such enterprises.

PRESIDENT: I hope this self-denial will extend to the time-limit also.

MR. E. E. PANDARATHIL: With pleasure, Sir. In short and in fine I say that I as well as the Jenmies heartily support the scheme.

MR. E. JOHN PHILIPOSE (*Tiruvalla*): Sir, in rising to make my comments on the financial statement made by the Financial Secretary and on the policy of the Government underlying therein, I feel to a certain extent, being my first experience, overwhelmed by a sense of my responsibility as a member of this Legislature and to a certain extent overwhelmed by the obligations which we as a party are called upon to discharge. Therefore, Sir, before I proceed to discuss the merits of the statement and the policy that has been laid before us, I wish to say that we have been returned to this Legislature by an electorate, the majority of whom have exercised their right of voting for the first time and who are perhaps expectantly looking forward to see us safeguarding their interests and serving our country. Therefore may I assure the Government on behalf of the party to which I belong that whatever decisions we may arrive at in respect of Government

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measures we will be guided not by a spirit of opportunism nor by a spirit of sychophancy but by honesty of purpose, a willingness and readiness to serve our country, a willingness to learn and may I say, by a devotion to the interests that we are called upon to represent.

Sir, in making my comments on the financial statement, I do not wish in the least to criticise in detail the statement before this House. All that I wish to say is that we on this side of the House have reason to be alarmed at the state of the finances of our country. Among the speeches that have been made here with particular reference to the financial side of the statement, I dare say, Mr. Padmanabha Pillai has made the best speech and that was definitely in support of the financial policy of the Government. On the other hand the speech of Mr. K. T. Thomas has laid bare to a very great extent the apprehensions which we entertain with regard to the financial soundness which we are assured by the Financial Secretary is proved. We, Sir, feel in the first place that the Financial Secretary is a luxury and not a necessity. After listening and after paying very considered attention and consideration to the financial statement may I say that we are not prepared to take the Financial Secretary at his word and that we are to a very great extent alarmed at the financial condition that we are in. Therefore, Sir, I would request you to consider the advisability of taking us into your confidence and to let a non-official enquiry be made into the finances of our State and a report from that committee will to a great extent allay our fears and confirm our hopes and expectations.

Dealing with the financial statement, I shall confine my remarks only to a very few of the matters. In the first place as far as the estimated revenue is concerned I wish to say that the major part of the Land Revenue has been recovered as collection of accumulated arrears. The agriculturists of this land are still feeling the weight of economic depression. I hope that if sufficient guarantees are forthcoming in the cases of people whose taxes are in arrears and have accumulated, with regard to repayment in reasonable time, the rigour that may be applied and that is being applied in regard to the collection of revenue should to a very great extent be relaxed.

Sir, the Dewan has stated that smuggling alone deprives the Government of about 20 to 30 lakhs and to-day we are called upon in this Assembly and in this sitting to grant to the Excise Department over a lakh of rupees for the reorganisation of that department with a view to effectively prevent smuggling. But if that grant is given the estimated revenue from such reorganisation is only Rs. 2·26 lakhs.

PRESIDENT: In the first year.

MR. E. JOHN PHILIPOSE: Yes. It shows definitely that either the loss estimated is too much or that the effectiveness of the scheme presented is certainly unsatisfactory. Therefore, Sir, I put it to you that we on the non-official side are prepared to co-operate with you in the prevention of an existing evil so that our revenues may be increased.

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[Mr. E. John Philipose.]

But for that purpose we urge that non-official co-operation should be invited. That co-operation we are prepared to give. Here again I would suggest that as far as smuggling is concerned non-official co-operation should be invited to investigate into the extent of this smuggling and Government should let us also into a committee in order that we may certainly study the subject and recommend to the Government ways and means of permanently eradicating this evil. That, Sir, is a very considered view which I have placed before Government and I hope that will receive consideration at your hands.

Again in respect of the estimated revenue I find that the collection from the newly issued commemoration stamps comes only to Rs. 20,000. Sir, you who have travelled wide will have known that the nature of our stamps is an insult to our aesthetic sense and any philatelist, I am sure, would agree that it is high time for this Government to completely change and beautify our stemps. I am sure that if the commemoration stamps had been issued with a better aesthetic sense, they will have certainly yielded a better revenue. At present nobody is enamoured of these stamps and very few people buy them for their sake.

Now, Sir, I turn to the expenditure side of the budget. The leader of this party has stated that the budget to a great extent, in so far as it relates to industrial enterprises, is something in the nature of a commercial prospectus. By that he certainly does not mean—and I am authorised to say that he certainly does not mean—that the Government should not launch on industrial enterprises. He certainly means that company prospectuses are generally overestimations of expectations.

PRESIDENT: Lying prospectuses in fact.

MR. E. JOHN PHILIPOSE: As far as these new schemes are concerned it should not be understood that we mean to take exception to them. All that we mean to say is that as far as this policy is concerned we should be posted with the necessary details of these schemes. Gentlemen here, members of this House, have been talking of nationalisation and socialism, that these schemes are schemes of nationalisation and schemes of socialism. Do you know how the incomes that come from these things are going to be secured? Do you know who fixes the rates. Do you know from whom the whole service is being run? Is it for the benefit of the people or for profit. The statement that was made by the Dewan-President that as far as this scheme is concerned in the first place, it has essentially a public utility service, and, in the second, it would yield an income worth the investment, is in my view—and I submit it is my personal view—contradictory. I venture to submit, Sir, that in the case of these industrial schemes and the university scheme the details should be given us. Introduce a transport bill, introduce a university bill. We are prepared to discuss them on their merits. We want a voice in the framing of these things.

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As the representatives of the people and as responsible citizens of the State, we are not prepared to confirm or ratify the scheme merely because it has been brought forward by Government. I am thankful to Government for bringing forward these schemes. For, to a great extent, schemes of this nature will take us out of the politics of communalism. But what we on this side say is that we should be posted with details about these schemes. Only after examining the details are we prepared to accept them or amend them. That is our position. As responsible elected member of this House, I say with all the emphasis I can command and I hope all the elected members will co-operate with me—that before granting financial demands the Legislature should be consulted. Sir, the control of the purse in all the countries where parliamentary systems of Government are in vogue, has been the pride and privilege of every representative Assembly. Therefore as a member of this Assembly I say that these schemes ought to have been placed before us in detail in the form of a Bill and we should have been taken into the confidence of Government.

Having made clear our position as far as the industrial policy of Government is concerned, let no man be under the impression that we do not know what a public utility service is. May I say that in respect of those remarks made by my friend Mr. K. C. Karunakaran—I am afraid he had been talking in thin air.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN: I wish to speak a word of personal explanation.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. Mr. Philipose has not yielded his place.

MR. E. JOHN PHILIPOSE: He ought to have made these remarks after due consideration especially when they refer to the leader of a party.

Having said this I venture to say that we in this party are prepared to co-operate with the Government of His Highness the Maharaja in all measures that we, after our deliberations, feel are conducive to the public interest and are not detrimental to the communities that we represent. We believe that communal harmony cannot be achieved except by communal justice. We do not expect that all at once the system of recruitment to the Public Service can be changed. But we do say that we have been returned on that ticket we urge on the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that all the communities should be treated alike and that justice should be given not only in the recruitment to the public service but also in representation to the legislative and representative bodies. With these words I resume my seat.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Mavelikara* cum *Kunnattur*): Sir, after listening to so many learned speeches made by honourable members from this side of the House, it may not look proper that I should take up the time of the House by making any statement regarding the aspects of the budget already discussed. I may at the same time mention one or two small matters which are of importance. In the first place I am willing to join those honourable members who

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[Mr. Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai.]

have chosen to congratulate the Financial Secretary. I am in disagreement with those who have condemned his speech. The question of the propriety of calling the budget and the speech of the Financial Secretary as the prospectus of a limited company has cropped up in the discussion. I for myself have not heard hitherto, a budget or the speech of a Financial Secretary being characterised as the prospectus of a public limited company. It has not been the practice of honourable members of this House to decry it in that fashion, because the word "prospectus" contains certain implications which are not consistent with the honesty, integrity and truth of the budget of a Government or the speech of a Financial Secretary. Prospectuses have fallen into our hands from time to time with statements which are inconsistent with truth and which are never considered as consistent with truth. But I am glad to say that the Financial Secretary's statement gives the exact truth and nothing but the truth. He has taken us into confidence and has explained the position of Government; he has tried to impress upon us the justification and the necessity for launching upon new schemes.

I wish to offer a few remarks in regard to two matters that have cropped up before this House. The first and foremost is the question of transport. It appears that there is an impression among some honourable members that the question of transport is a commercial service and that it is not a State matter. It is said that the transport if undertaken by Government will not be nationalisation of transport. I wish to draw the attention of honourable members who have spoken in this strain to what has taken place in England. The statistics published in regard to the working of the system in Hyderabad does not appear to them to be convincing. I wish to draw attention to the speech delivered by Sir Eric Geddes in the House of Commons in 1919 when the Ministry of Transport Bill was introduced there. It was proposed under Section 9 of the Act to take power by the Transport Minister to launch new schemes of transport and also to undertake existing concerns. The London Traffic Act was also passed in 1924. Similar power was taken so far as the Metropolitan Area was concerned. When the Labour Government took office a bill was introduced by which the Board of Traffic was constituted for the metropolitan area for the purpose of taking over all buses, tramways and under-ground railways. This bill had a heated debate in the House of commons and it was not passed when the labour Government was in power. It was passed in 1933 when the National Government took up office. Millions of pounds have already been invested. To say that no such system prevails in England and that Parliament is subsidising these transport schemes is a mistake, and a mistake calculated to create a wrong impression in the public mind. I do not want to dwell upon what is taking place in Germany and Italy. I will confine my attention to what the Parliament has said. If that is sound in principle I do not understand why honourable members of this House

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should call this as a purely commercial undertaking and characterise it as an undertaking on a par with the Rubber Factory and the Sugar Factory. Transport is the life blood of the country. It is the duty of every Government to cater to the wants of the public. It is necessary that safety must be guaranteed. Along with safety there must be speed. Along with that we must have convenience and facilities. Do the private undertakers guarantee all that the public want in this respect? If they do not, is it proper for the Government to shirk their responsibility in the matter? When responsible Governments elsewhere are seriously taking up this question, is it proper that an advanced State like Travancore should lag behind? Sir, the question is one of principle. As pointed out by Mr. Pereira, whether it yields profit or not the State must undertake it. It is not a commercial proposition. It is a State proposition, because therein lies the prosperity of the country and the safety of the people. Public roads in Travancore are vested in Government under the Land Conservancy Regulation and the rule is that no man shall be permitted to make a trade of the highways. By leave and license people are allowed to carry on this trade on the highways. But when that license is withdrawn they must stop such trade. They have no right to protest. Now a particular man comes and says, "you have asked me to stop my buses. Will you pay me compensation?" If that were the proposition I would have supported it. But to contend that the taking up of transport by the State means the demolition of private rights is wrong. I am prepared to concede that when Government take up this scheme, the question of compensation will certainly come in. It has been held that in such cases compensation must be based on reasonable net maintainable revenue. That is the basis on which compensation is allowed by all national Governments. That was the principle adopted by the Labour Government and that is the principle now accepted by the National Government in England. I beg to submit that this is a matter about which there will be plenty of time to enquire into and decide. The question is whether it is one of the obligatory duties and responsibilities of Government that the transport system should be in their hands. If you are agreed on that principle the method of working it out will be an easy matter. Details will be placed before us and we will get plenty of opportunities for criticising the scheme. But the question now is whether we are agreed on principle. I submit, Sir, that it is right on principle that the Government should undertake this task.

Coming next to the question of the establishment of a University in Travancore, I have already expressed my opinion on the subject on a former occasion. The problem of unemployment is rampant.

Educationists, Politicians and Statesmen have been, from time to time, advocating some re-organisation, some fundamental change in the system of education that we are getting at present. The idea of a university is not new to us; it was discussed and considered at a recent Conference. There was, no doubt, a difference of opinion on some minor matters. But as Travancoreans if we are to have a university,

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[Mr. Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai.]

it must be a Travancore University. On that point I am sure my honourable friends on this side of the House must agree. Whether it is to be purely on technological lines, or literary, what subjects are to be taught and how they are to be imparted—these are all matters of detail, foreign to discussion on the budget debate. Let us consider first whether we are agreed, on the opinion that Travancore must have a university of its own, that Travancore must bring about fundamental changes in the educational system and thereby solve the problem of unemployment. If that question is directly put, I for my part am prepared to answer that it is an absolute necessity. I am prepared to support Government in regard to this matter.

Sir, at the same time I must not omit to mention one or two matters which have not been embodied either in the Financial Secretary's speech or in the Budget. Now Debt Conciliation Boards have been established and seven officers have been appointed to carry on that work. They seem to be gentlemen not getting much of practice and my own impression is that it was not their fault nor was it the fault of the debtors or the creditors. If we want to give any impetus to this new system of conciliation embarked upon by Government, there must be facilities for securing long term credit. I ask, is there any institution in Travancore which will give us that credit? For borrowing, one has to go seeking the aid of banks where he has to pay 12 per cent. interest and a discount for getting money. After that, he has to return the money within a short stipulated time.

In regard to the grant of agricultural loans, that too has become a thorough failure and the Government have been cutting down the budget provision in this direction. I think the amount has come down to a lakh and odd this year. I ask you, Sir, whether it is not time to think about the establishment for the use of the people of the State institutions which will give us long term credits.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: What does the member say about the Land Mortgage Bank?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: It is no doubt functioning. But it is unsatisfactory and insufficient from the point of view of those who seek long term loans. Unless Government think of an institution which will advance loans of a large amount specifically for credit purposes the system of conciliation cannot succeed. I want a separate institution with deeper and broader finances to help the agricultural debtors in the State. Unless Government are prepared to effectuate such a scheme, I am quite sure that these Conciliation Boards would not work statisfactorily.

The Financial Secretary has stated that improvement under Land Revenue was due to the better collection of the accumulated arrears. From the point of view of the Financial Secretary I certainly commend such a course. But as a representative of the people I may say that the Financial Secretary ought to have cheered us by saying that the

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crops were good, the balance of trade was in favour of this country and so on. He ought to have said something about the economic prosperity of the people. The plethoric state of the Government Gazette is indicative of the leanness of the agriculturist's purse. I find our nut magnates have been prospering; but the systematic fumigations of the innocent labourer speak more of our poverty than our prosperity.

Again the Financial Secretary has stated that he does not expect any enhanced revenues from the Registration Department next year. Is it his view that we have reached a peak point in the incomes from that Department by the registration of public companies? Is it his view that we are not going to earn more by registering fresh companies?

PRESIDENT: Time please.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: I am done. I hope that the Financial Secretary will take note of the defects that I have pointed out.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Sir, I am thankful to the honourable members for their general favourable reception accorded to my budget speech. I proceed to reply to some of the criticisms of members advanced against the budget. Some of the honourable members observed that the financial condition of the State as described in my speech is not correct. In making that remark they said that the collection of arrears under land revenue should not be included in the budget, that the windfall in customs revenue should not find a place in the budget; another member went to the extent of saying that the full amount of the customs receipts on account of Cochin Harbour works should not be entered at all in the budget. All these observations show that the nature and scope of the budget have not been clearly understood.

What do you mean by Budget. I shall briefly explain the purpose and the nature of the budget. A budget is prepared on a cash basis. It does not include liabilities and fixed assets. It is a statement of the estimated annual cash receipts and expenditure. It is divided into two parts, 'current budget' and 'capital.' There are various forms in which budgets are prepared in several countries. According to the pamphlet "General Finance" prepared by the League of Nations, Secretariat, Budgets are classified as ordinary, current, permanent, effective, extraordinary, non-recurring, exceptional, temporary, transitional, capital and emergency receipts and expenditure and so on and so forth. The ordinary rule, rather the most conservative principle that is accepted and acted upon by advanced countries in the world in the matter of budget is this. It is divided into two parts, the current budget and the capital budget. The purpose of the current budget is to determine the level of taxation. First the expenditure necessary for carrying on the normal activities of good Government is estimated. Taxation is resorted to supply the necessary money for financing expenditure. Then ways

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[Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar.]

and means for incurring the capital expenditure necessary are considered. I shall read out for fuller information of the House the object of these two kinds of budgets adopted by the civilized countries in the world, extracts from the book "The Budgets in Government of To-day" by A. E. Buck of the Columbia University, pages 117 and 138.

"There are several ways of attaining budgetary equilibrium. We shall first note those usally followed under normal conditions. The formula for balancing the budget most widely approved by American practice provides that current income, namely, revenues, should be ample to meet current expenditures and fixed charges, including debt service; that borrowings should not be used for meeting current expenditures, but only for capital expenditure, and, when unavoidable, for major emergencies; and that indebtednes should not be incurred beyond the ability of the Government to meet interest and retirement charges out of current income".

"The difference between the current and the capital budget, or more accurately the two parts of the general budget, is simply this The current budget is intended to show what it costs to operate the Government as a going concern, while the capital budget presents the amounts which are to be put into properties, investments, and other lasting assets of the Government. The difference also signifies some distinction in the means of financing the two budgets, or parts, as we shall see presently. The current budget generally exhibits, on the expenditure side, the running expenses of the Government' including current obligations minor properties, and debt redemption; and on the income side the reveunes, and the surpluses, if any, which are anticipated to finance the proposed outgo. The capital budget presents, on the expenditure side, the estimated cost of major properties to be acquired or constructed, and the investments to be made in public undertakings and similar enterprises, while on the income side it enumerates the revenues, assessments, borrowings, receipts from the sales of capital assets, and surpluses in funds available for purposes of financing. Borrowings, it will be seen, may be used in financing the capital budget, but sound fiscal policy rules them out with respect to the current budget, except perhaps in cases of great emergency."

There is another most important point; that is, the principle of allocation of expenditure between capital and revenue accounts. I will read out to you the principles followed by the Government of India and the Governments of Britain and America in this respect.

The Government of India have laid down in authoritative terms the principles to be observed in deciding whether an item of expenditure should be charged to capital or revenue account thus:

"(a) Capital bears all charges for the first cons ruction and equipment of a project, as well as charges for maintenance on sections not opened for working and charges for such subsequent additions and improvements as may be sanctioned under rules by competent authority. It may also bear charges on account of restoration of damages caused by extraordinary casualties, such as flood, fire, etc. and such charges are separately recorded as "extraordinary replacements".

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: May I know from what the member is reading?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR: I am reading about the principles of allocation of expenditure between capital and revenue accounts, laid down in the Introduction to Indian Government Account and Audit published by the Auditor General in India.

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MR. E. JOHN PHILIPOSE: May I know from what book the member was reading previously?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR: I was reading an extract from the "Budgets in Governments of To day" by Mr. A. E. Buck. That book contains a description of the principles followed in the preparation of budget by several civilized countries.

The quotation I want to give for the information of the House is from an authoritative compilation prepared by the Government of India. It treats about Indian Government Accounts and Audit.

> "(*b*) Revenue bears all charges for maintenance and working expenses which embrace all expenditure for the working and upkeep of the project, and also for such renewals, replacements, additions, improvements or extensions, as under the rules in clause (*c*) and (*d*) below are chargeable to the Revenue account".

PRESIDENT: It is enough the honourable member gives the actual reference.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR: Yes, Sir.

Then, the revenue expenditure of commercial projects is generally met from the ordinary revenues of the country, but the capital expenditure is met mainly from the following sources.

> (*a*) Current surplus revenues or cash balances accruing from previous surpluses;
>
> (*b*) Any balances available from Savings Bank or other Deposits and
>
> (*c*) Sums borrowed in the open market or from the Provincial Loans Fund."

Again, local Governments can raise loans for any of the following purposes:

> "(*a*) To meet capital expenditure on the construction or acquisition including the acquisition of land, maintenance during construction and equipment of any work or permanent asset of a material character in connection with a project of lasting public utility, provided that the proposed expenditure is so large that it cannot reasonably be met from current revenue".

PRESIDENT: Order, order. That is an elementary principle fairly known.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR: So then, Sir, our budget is prepared strictly in accordance with these principles.

One member stated that because the balance has been diminishing for several years the financial condition is not satisfactory. We spent our balances on productive works, development works and schemes of lasting public utility, defence expenditure connected with military reorganisation etc. They are all items for the benefit of the people at large. They have been sanctioned by the Legislature from time to time. There is nothing wrong in our budget, It does not contain all the fixed assets. It does not follow from that, that our finances are in a bad condition.

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[Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar.]

Now let us find out the test of good finance as distinguished from bad finance. We have no dead weight debts. Our debts are more than covered by remunerative assets.

What is the position of other countries? What is the position of British India? More than Rs. 200 and 300 crores of debts have been incurred for wars and other non-productive purposes. Up to this date, we have maintained our level of expenditure. We have met these items from our revenue. But the amount borrowed is for remunerative and paying assets. That is my reason why I say that the condition of our finances is satisfactory. If honourable members make such comments on the floor of the House, I am of opinion, that the whole credit of the country would be doubted and distrust will be created in the minds of the outside public. So I deprecate adverse comments being made without adequate consideration to the condition of our finances (Mr. Truscott: *Hear hear*). Now as regards the saving banks to which several members have referred. One member asked whether Government will be able to honour its obligation if there is a run on the Government for the refund of saving bank deposits. I say deliberately that we will be able to meet our obligation to the last pie. Our net liability, on this account as seen at page 11 of the budget estimate, is Rs. 189·4 lakhs.

MR. E. JOHN PHILIPOSE: Members on this side would like to hear him, Sir.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR: Out of the balance of Rs. 189·4 lakhs of saving bank deposits, the ordinary account is Rs. 70 lakhs only. The remaining consist of security deposit Rs. 20 lakhs, Devaswom Fund and other funds Rs. 89 lakhs. We have on the assets side investments in the Government of India Securities amounting to Rs. 216 lakhs so that with that amount we can meet any obligation even to the last pie. But as a matter of fact, what is the real state of affairs? Every year our receipts exceed our outgoings by Rs. 20 lakhs. So there is nothing to be feared of such a run to the saving bank deposits. But if honourable members express such doubts about our capacity for meeting our obligations, then it is likely that it might affect our credit and induce people for making such a run. I assure honourable members that we have got assets earmarked more than sufficient for paying all our liabilities and also assure the outside public that there need be any doubt in the minds of anybody in regard to our repaying capacity.

One honourable member said that the saving bank system here competes with other banks in the country. The maximum limit for saving bank deposits is only Rs. 5000. It is a feature of the system of other civilized Governments in the world, in India, and in Indian States, and as a matter of fact, it does not compete with the ordinary banks.

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One other honourable member said that the volume of export and import is something like Rs. 16 crores. I accept the figures. That shows that it is open for other banks to tackle those fields. The small investor is present all over the State. As a matter of fact, it does not compete with the ordinary banking system.

Complaints have been made that provision for agriculture is meagre. One member complained as regards the provision for the expenditure on irrigation. But as a matter of fact, we have provided Rs. 3 lakhs for protective and minor irrigation. As a matter of fact, our irrigation fund now amounts to about Rs. 6 lakhs and so it is not our intention that irrigation should suffer. We have provided the necessary funds. We have even gone to the other extreme. There is a large fund and no use is made out of it. Again we have provided Rs. 19·89 lakhs for the maintenance of communications. That is all for the benefit of the agriculturists. Communication is mainly for the benefit of the agriculturists.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI: Why should the member speak, Sir, if he is not reasonably audible?

PRESIDENT Honourable member cannot expect all members to speak at the same pitch.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYER: As regards taxation in Nanjinad the Dewan has said that there will be a reorientation of the basis of taxation. He is considering a scheme for reorientation and it will be brought into effect in due course. It cannot be possible to remove assessment altogether. The activities of Government have to be carried on and for that we want money. That money must be raised from the country some how or other.

Then as regards tobacco revenue. One honourable member said that tobacco revenue which we have provided in the budget is not likely to be realised. We are trying to prevent smuggling, and we hope that the revenue will be realised. Government are going to press this question and to see what can be done to prevent smuggling. They are not going to accept a defeatist attitude in this matter. As I said in my budget speech, I request the honourable members here to help and co-operate with Government in enabling them to realise that revenue.

Then one member said that our salaries here are higher and he compared our salaries with those proposed for the Ministers in British India. The pay of a Minister in British India cannot be compared with the pay of a departmental head here. The pay of the Chief Secretary here could be compared with the pay of the Chief Secretary in British India; the pay of a Dewan Peishkar here could be compared with the pay of a District Collector there. It is no use comparing the pay of the departmental heads here with those of the Ministers in British India. When the level of salaries in Madras and other British Indian Provinces is lowered, no doubt that question may be considered here also in due course.

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[Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar.]

Some members raised objection to the policy of Government in granting extension to senior officers. From a financial point of view I have no objection to the extension. The pension of an officer still capable of useful service, is a waste of public money. That is a principle which has been confirmed over and over again by the various Governments. But then there is the question of efficiency. The superannuation age in England is 65. If there is efficiency, there is no objection to the extension being granted.

Complaints were made about Government resorting to the provision of Section 32 of the Regulation of certifying expenditure. This question has been discussed threadbare before the Public Accounts committee acting as a representative of this House. That question is this. When the Finance Committee sits, the proposals for resorting to Section 32 of the Regulation will be placed before the Finance Commitee. When the Assembly sits, those proposals will be placed before the Assembly. When the Finance Committee is not in session, those proposals will be placed before it the next time it meets. So that full information is given to this House or the Finance Committee about such proposals.

PRESIDENT: I shall give the honourable member five minutes more.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikom* cum *Kottayam*): We would like to know about the Land Martgage Bank.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR: Government are considering a proposal to hand over the Land Mortgage Bank also to private enterprise, *i. e.*, to be worked on joint stock company basis. But no details have been worked out.

Increase in stamps and registration was adverted to by one or two honourable members. The Conciliation Boards will necessitate several processes in regard to application and registration for which stamp fees have been prescribed in the rules. So that accounts for the increased estimate.

This year we have made more provision than last year under the heads P. W. D., Medical, Sanitation and Education. We have maintained not only the same level of expenditure, but also increased the expenditure to Rs. 6·8 lakhs more than that of last year. So the surplus which we hope to see next year has been made after providing for the usual expenditure.

One honourable member said that the method of calculation of the contribution to the Devaswom Fund is wrong and that the sale proceeds of puduval lands should have been taken into account. That is not correct. I find that the rule is that the Ayacut receipts alone are taken into account and the receipts of sales of Government lands are not taken account.

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MR. T. C KESAVA PILLAI : തിരുവെഴുത്തുവിളംബരത്തിനു പിൻപു തിരുവിതാംകൂർ പുതുതായി രാജ്യങ്ങൾ പിടിച്ചടക്കിയിട്ടുള്ളതായി ഒരു ബുക്കറിയാമോ?.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR : I have no major points now to discuss. Some of the honourable members in the course of their speech brought to the notice of this House some minor points of grievances. I think honourable member Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai asked for a ferry service in his place and it is for Mr. Truscott to take the necessary action on that.

PRESIDENT : I propose to avail myself of the opportunity given to me under the Rules which provide that the President may make any remarks at the end of the discussion. I do so notwithstanding in certain quarters a comment has been made that thereby a confusion of the jurisdiction of the Dewan and the Dewan President may be created. The first point that I desire to make is this, namely, that I wholly agree with the Financial Secretary's observation when he stated that it was somewhat unfortunate that adequate attention has not been paid during the debate to the principle underlying capital expenditure and the way in which it has to be financed and to the rules relating to accumulated reserves in relation thereto.

In this connection let me invite the attention of the House to the budgets of some other countries in the world. Take the last budget of the Government of India. The total interest bearing obligations of the Government of India for the year ending 31st March 1936 was Rs. 1208.72 lakhs. The total interest yielding assets amounted to Rs. 989.42 lakhs. The total of the balance of the interest bearing obligations, not covered by assets is Rs. 196·31 lakhs. The Revenue budgeted for came to Rs. 1,22,77,15,000 and expenditure to Rs. 1,22,70,12,000 leaving a surplus of just over 7 lakhs. Turning to the United Kingdom which is the most stable financial country in the world and is fairly conservative in its budgetary procedure, we find that last year, the public debt of England was 7,902 millions of pounds, the annual charge, that is the annual interest charged on the public debt was 222 millions per year. The gross liabilities came to 7,901·6 million pounds and the assets including exchequer balances at Banks to about 512 million pounds. The revenue and expenditure of the year ending 1936—37 were 847 and 938 millions of pounds respectively. Now you will find in dealing with these figures that if capital expenditure devoted to productive and ameliorative schemes were not taken into account it can well be argued that the United Kingdom has become bankrupt. Now let us turn to America. The public debt in America in 1934 to 1935 was 26,052 million dollars. In 1935–36 it was 26,093 million dollars. Therefore in one year 40 million dollars were added to the debt. The average revenue and expenditure are about 7,290 million dollars. I am quoting these figures from the Indian

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[President.]

Year Book 1936 –37 and the Statesman's Year Book of 1937 (the Revenue and Expenditure items shown on pages 482 and 483). The deduction from these figures is this. That in all countries with a civilized modern system of budget procedure and financial canons the practice is to finance the capital expenditure from year to year from reserves and loans not only in so far as they are immediately remunerative in character and productive of interest but because they are productive of the ultimate interests of the State. But all these figures apart, I wish to assure the honourable members of this House that the moneys that are taken from the reserves and spent on remunerative national enterprises are not wasted, but represent important assets. If any Finance Member or any Finance Secretary kept those reserves unutilised and yet went on providing for such ameliorative purposes from revenue or from loans he would be really taxing one generation for what benefits succeeding generations also. Honourable members made some observations as to raiding the reserves but I trust they bear in mind the fact that the utilisation of the reserves in properly devised enterprises is not a wrong procedure, but the only right procedure. Then certain observations were made by the leader of the Nationalist Party on Savings Bank Deposits. As has been rightly pointed out, the Savings Bank Deposits amount to about Rs. 70 lakhs and the Devaswom and other Deposits Rs. 80 lakhs and the available money with which a run may be counteracted is Rs. 216 lakhs. Any run on the Anchal Savings Bank will be more than amply met and the Post Office Savings Banks do not in any country anticipate any runs like commercial concerns.

I want to end with a note of hope and warning. We may rest thoroughly satisfied with our financial position. I am speaking from the experience of legislatures in many places and many financial budgets. I am satisfied that the system of finance and our budgetary position is sound. To depict the future of our finances as enveloped in gloom is not warranted by the facts and is to ignore the practice of other countries. Such warnings and prophesies if based on such arguments as have been heard are likely not only to detract from our financial interests, but to throw a needless doubt on our stability. After all, the investing public are good judges in this matter. We went to the market for Rs. 50 lakhs the other day and the loan was eight times over subscribed in 24 hours. I know I am speaking to honourable members who will whole-heartedly co-operate with Government in the matter of upholding our credit. Let us not utter warnings which are not wholly based on facts and legitimate inferences. Let us not lower our own credit which I may assure this house is deservedly high

The Assembly adjourned at 2-23 P. M. to meet again the next day.

E. I. CHACKO,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

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